



A3. Work Plan

Background Section

Introduction

Attachment 3 contains two sections—Background and Work Plan. The Background Section identifies and characterizes the components of the existing plan that need revisions in order to comply with Prop 84 IRWM Plan Standards (“Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012”). For example, the Project Review Process needs major revisions while the Regional Description is complete for the most part. In addition, this section presents examples from the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan (2007), providing an understanding of the existing level of detail (“Examples from 2007 Plan”). The Work Plan section follows and explains in detail how the region will develop a complete IRWM plan that achieves major regional objectives and meets Prop 84 standards.

What We Have Accomplished

Integrated regional water management planning began in the Santa Barbara County region in 2005 with the creation of the Cooperating Partners (Regional Water Management Group [RWMG]) and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to guide the IRWM process. Stakeholder outreach was initiated shortly thereafter. In 2007, the Santa Barbara Region IRWM Plan was completed and adopted. Since 2007, the region moved forward in several areas in an effort to keep pace with anticipated Prop 84 Guidelines (Final Guidelines released July 2010). The RWMG met regularly and took action on issues such as governance, project development, project selection, and implementation grant management. These actions will be included in the Santa Barbara County IRWM Plan 2012 (IRWM Plan 2012).

- **Governance** – A revised MOU was completed in 2010 that broke new ground for IRWM regional governance. The MOU now provides for full participation of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the RWMG and its Steering Committee. NGOs are not required to make a monetary contribution but can donate their time as an in-lieu contribution. In order to facilitate participation by as many stakeholders as possible, the MOU establishes a procedure to allow parties to join the RWMG at any time during the process. Department of Water Resources (DWR) guidance from the Regional Acceptance Process (RAP) also resulted in additional detail being added regarding governance requirements, decision making structure, and procedures.

- **RAP Process** – In 2009, the region directed its energy into seeking DWR approval as a “region” through the RAP. Santa Barbara County subsequently was approved by DWR as a region.
- **Project Selection Process** – In late 2009, the region proactively pushed to conduct a project selection process in order to be prepared with current projects when the Prop 84 Implementation Grant money became available. This process aligned with Prop 84 legislative guidance. Over a 6-month period of time, stakeholders participated in a transparent, public process that utilized a multi-objective decision-making process to identify, qualify, score, and rank projects to compete for Prop 84 Implementation Grant funding. This approach met all Prop 84 IRWM Guideline requirements.
- **Issues and Objectives** – During the project selection process, the regional stakeholders met to discuss and update regional issues and conflicts, regional objectives, and consider appropriate resource management strategies.
- **Stakeholder and DAC Outreach** – The RWMG has made a concerted effort to update its stakeholder outreach plan by identifying and soliciting the participation of new stakeholders. The RWMG has been pleased to have the participation of Heal the Ocean, an environmental group, on its Steering Committee for the last year and one half. One of the goals of the region is to increase communications and successfully empower DACs in the IRWM process. Those efforts are detailed in the Background Section entitled “Public process used to identify stakeholders and how they were included in the planning and decision making process for IRWM Plan.”

The RWMG accepted the challenge of integrating current 2007 IRWM Plan objectives with recent planning and newly selected projects that move the region to increasing water reuse and water conservation, improving operational efficiency, watershed management, and improving water quality. A partial list of those accomplishments includes:

- Coordination with the U.S. Forest Service on projects to protect watersheds and ecosystems damaged by recent forest fires by reducing water runoff and sedimentation to reservoirs (e.g. project submitted for funding by U.S. Forest Service)
- Water conservation (e.g. Santa Barbara County Regional Conservation Program implemented along with other regional projects to reduce consumption, match water quality to water use, and detect leaks)
- Removal and ongoing control of invasive plant species (e.g. arundo project underway)
- Reduced wastewater discharges into the ocean (e.g. South Coast regional water recycling plan proposed for IRWM funding in this application)

- Elimination of environmental damage caused by unintended wastewater releases (e.g. conveyance system upgrade projects in implementation stage)

The following Background Section text presents descriptions of topics identified in the Planning PSP, page 15. For each topic, this proposal divides the descriptions into two categories: “**Revisions Needed for IRWM 2010**” (deals with how this topic will be addressed in the IRWM Plan 2012) and “**Examples from 2007 Plan**” (presents text from the 2007 IRWM, showing the existing level of detail).

The Regional Water Management Group (RWMG)

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

This section will be revised with a current list of RWMG members and description of their organization’s or agency’s role in the RWMG. Stakeholder outreach to expand regional participation will be initiated (see Task 3, Work Plan, Stakeholder Involvement).

Examples from 2007 Plan

The Cooperating Partners comprises nearly 100 percent of the entities in the Region that have statutory authority over water management in addition to an NGO. The members of the Cooperating Partners are listed in Exhibit 3-1.

EXHIBIT 3-1
Cooperating Partners

Cooperating Partners	
Santa Barbara County, Agricultural Commissioner’s Office	Montecito Water District
Santa Barbara County, Parks Department	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Santa Barbara County Water Agency	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District-Improvement District 1
Santa Barbara County Flood Control District	Carpinteria Sanitary District
City of Buellton	Goleta Sanitary District
City of Carpinteria	Goleta West Sanitary District
City of Goleta	Casmalia Community Service District
City of Guadalupe	Cuyama Community Services District
City of Lompoc	Vandenberg Village Community Services District (VVCSD)
City of Santa Barbara	Cachuma Conservation & Release Board (CCRB)
City of Santa Maria	Cachuma Operation & Maintenance Board (COMB)
City of Solvang	Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA)
Carpinteria Valley Water District	Santa Maria Valley Water Conservation District
Goleta Water District	Laguna Sanitation District

The Region

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

The Region section will require additional work to update the IRWM Plan 2012. Some important general areas to update include the following: major water related objectives and conflicts; watershed planning and management efforts, and description of the effects that climate change may have on watershed, water supply and water demand. Excerpts from these sections of the 2007 Plan have been included below to demonstrate the existing level of detail.

Current and projected population numbers will be updated. Revisions also will be made to discussions of:

- Current agricultural, urban, and municipal/industrial water use
- Projected water demand and supply
- Status of TMDL action plans for impaired water bodies
- Groundwater quality characterizations, new sources of discharges, and new wastewater treatment impacts
- Urban stormwater constituents of concern and efforts to manage them
- Overall ocean water quality and the contributions of stormwater runoff and treated wastewater discharges to quality
- Agricultural water quality and drinking water quality

The water quality section of the IRWM Plan 2012 will need to be updated with current data and descriptive text. This section will describe the current and future (or proposed) water quality conditions in the region. It also will include a new section describing projects that intend to match water quality to water use. One element of the plan update proposed in this application, "Groundwater Basin Assessment in Support of Salt and Nutrient Management Plan" will provide additional groundwater quality information.

Excerpts from the 2007 Plan are included below to present the existing level of detail: watershed and managed water systems, internal boundaries, water supply and demand, water quality, the regional IRWM boundary, and neighboring regions (Figure 1, "Political/Jurisdictional Boundaries" map).



LEGEND
 — Major Roads
 — Minor Roads

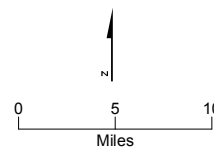


FIGURE 1
Political/Jurisdictional Boundaries
 Santa Barbara IRWMP

Examples from 2007 Plan

The Santa Barbara County Region is well-defined in the existing 2007 IRWM Plan and supported by information in the RAP report. The region is defined by its boundaries, physical features, watersheds and water systems. Its description includes internal boundaries, water supply and demand, water quality, major water related objectives and conflicts, regional IRWM boundary, and neighboring/overlapping IRWM regions and broad variety of interested parties participating in the process.

The Santa Barbara County IRWM Region is a distinct region that encompasses a breadth and depth of water management, issues, challenges and successes, some of which were discussed in the RAP, Section 2, specifically in regard to the competing interests and conflicts that have arisen, and the ways in which they have been resolved.

Watersheds and Managed Water Systems

Major Watershed Areas and Management

There are five major watersheds in County. The map “Watershed Boundaries of Santa Barbara County” is included as Figure 2. The watersheds are: (1) the Santa Maria Watershed, which includes the Cuyama and Sisquoc watersheds and covers 1,845 square miles; (2) the San Antonio Creek Watershed that covers 165 square miles; and (3) the south coast watersheds, which are comprised of 50 short, steep watersheds that covers 416 square miles; (4) the Santa Ynez River Watershed that covers 900 square miles; and (5) the Rincon Creek Watershed, which is comprised of 9,532 acres in the north eastern portion of the County. The 2008 Triennial Groundwater Report by Santa Barbara County Water Agency is now available and may be used to update data. Extensive information exists in the RAP describing the watersheds in detail.



LEGEND

 San Antonio Creek	 Santa Ynez River	 Rincon Creek
 Santa Maria River	 South Coast	

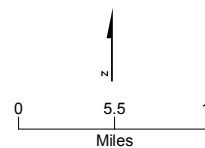


FIGURE 2
Watershed Boundaries
of Santa Barbara County
Santa Barbara IRWMP

Groundwater Basins

The groundwater basins in the County, listed below, have been divided into North County, Santa Ynez River, and South Coast basins. The groundwater basins are presented in Figure 3.

EXHIBIT 3-2

Santa Barbara County Groundwater Basins

Groundwater Basin	Size in Acres	Use
North County Groundwater Basins		
Santa Maria	110,000 total acres, 80,000 of which are in the County	Two cities; extensive unincorporated urban area (County); extensive irrigation, agriculture; petroleum
San Antonio Creek	70,400	One town; extensive agriculture; some petroleum & Vandenberg Air Force Base
Cuyama	441,600 acres total, 81,280 of which are in the County	Extensive agriculture; some petroleum; very low population density
Santa Ynez Groundwater Basins		
Santa Ynez Uplands	83,200	Three towns, one city & various medium-density residential; varied high-value agriculture
Buellton Uplands	16,400	One city; agriculture
Lompoc	48,600	One city, two unincorporated urban developments and Vandenberg Air Force Base; varied agriculture, petroleum; Federal Penitentiary
Santa Ynez River Riparian Basin	12,000 (3 subunits)	Two cities; 7,300 acres of irrigated cropland
South Coast Groundwater Basins		
Carpinteria	6,700	One city, unincorporated urban development; orchards, irrigated crops and greenhouses
Montecito	4,300	Low density residential uses (predominantly); unincorporated
Santa Barbara	4,500	Residential, industrial & commercial
Foothill	3,000	Residential & commercial
Goleta North/Central	5,700	Residential, industrial & commercial
Goleta West	3,500	Residential, industrial & commercial
More Ranch	502	Open space, limited residential & agriculture
Ellwood to Gaviota Coastal Basins	67,200	Agriculture, orchards & grazing; limited municipal & industrial
Gaviota to Point Conception Coastal Basins	23,040	Agriculture-grazing (predominantly)



LEGEND
 — Major Roads

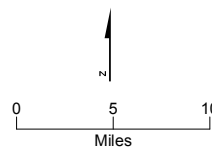


FIGURE 3
Groundwater Basins
of Santa Barbara County
Santa Barbara IRWMP

Major Surface Water Bodies in the Region – Rivers, Creeks, Dams and Reservoirs

The Santa Ynez River flows approximately 75 miles through the Santa Ynez Valley. It originates in the Los Padres Forest on the northern slope of the Santa Ynez Mountains near Divide Peak and flows westerly where it enters Jameson Lake and is impounded by the Juncal Dam. The Santa Maria River is formed at the confluence of the Cuyama and Sisquoc Rivers at Fugler Point, which is just east of the City of Santa Maria approximately 20 miles from its delta with the Pacific Ocean. The Cuyama River is a relatively long river that flows in the northern County, San Luis Obispo County, and very small portions of Kern and Ventura counties. The Sisquoc River originates in the San Rafael Mountains and flows generally northwest. Once it is out of the Los Padres National Forest it generally travels westerly to its confluence with the Cuyama River. San Antonio Creek is a relatively long waterway. The drainage system of the San Antonio Creek Watershed starts at a point approximately 10 miles east of Los Alamos. It traverses generally to the west through Los Alamos and Vandenberg Air Force Base to the ocean.

Major Water Related Infrastructure

Major water related infrastructure of Santa Barbara County is detailed in Figure 4, “Major Water Related Infrastructure of Santa Barbara.”

Impaired Water Bodies

The State has established “beneficial uses” for all surface water bodies within its jurisdiction. Water quality standards have been established for each beneficial use. The County contains a number of water bodies that are listed as impaired under Section 303(d). Sources of pollution include both urban and agricultural uses, as well as natural sources. The waters on the list do not meet water quality standards, even after point sources of pollution have installed the minimum required levels of pollution control technology.

Internal Boundaries

Physical, Topographical, Geographical and Biological Features

The County region is located approximately 90 miles northwest of Los Angeles and 300 miles south of San Francisco. The County itself is roughly 3,789 sq. miles, of which approximately 2,737 sq. miles are land and 1,052 sq. miles are water. Bordered on the west and south by the Pacific Ocean, the County has 110 miles of coastline and also jurisdictionally includes four of the eight Channel Islands: Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, San Miguel, and Santa Barbara. Although the islands are considered part of Santa Barbara, these islands are largely owned and managed by the Federal government as national park and a marine sanctuary. The Federal government is the largest land owner in the County; the United States Forest Service and Air Force have jurisdiction over nearly 46 percent of the land area. Los Padres National Forest and Vandenberg Air Force Base comprise approximately 748,000 acres combined.

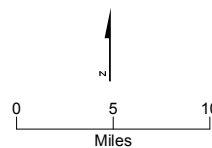
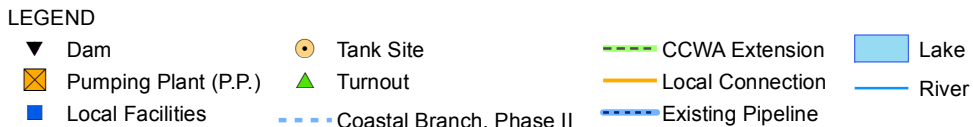


FIGURE 4
Major Water Related Infrastructure
 of Santa Barbara County
 Santa Barbara IRWMP

Water District, Water Conservation District and Flood District Boundaries

There are three water districts (Carpinteria Valley Water District, Montecito Water District and Goleta Water District) and the four main water conservation districts (Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District; Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No. 1; Santa Maria River Water Conservation District; and the Santa Barbara County Water Conservation District) in the County. The boundaries of the County are also the boundaries of the Flood Control District.

These districts serve residents within the confines of the County political/jurisdictional boundary with the exception of the Santa Maria Valley Water Conservation District that serves a small portion of southern San Luis Obispo County. The map “Water, Conservation, Irrigation and Flood Districts” is included as Figure 5.

Water Supply and Demand

Agricultural Demand

Agricultural development increased dramatically after World War II due to advances in refrigerated-transport technology, which allowed crops grown in the county to be transported by train in refrigerated rail cars for sale in distant locations. Agricultural water use now accounts for approximately 75 percent of all water demand in the county; calculating an exact amount would require accounting for the fact that some of the water used for agricultural returns as groundwater recharge. Most agricultural water supplies are obtained from private groundwater wells, although some water purveyors provide agricultural water, as well. In recent years, improvements in agricultural technology have allowed increases in crop yield and intensification of agricultural development on an acre-by-acre basis.

Urban Demand

Urban water use accounts for approximately 25 percent of all water demand in Santa Barbara County. Variances in water usage are due in part to the amount of industry and subregional climate, as well as variation in lot sizes and soil types.

Projected Water Demand and Supply

By 2040, the Santa Barbara County population is expected to increase by almost 52 percent over 2000 levels (from about 399,000 to 606,000) (Santa Barbara County, 2003). Total water demand for this same 40-year period is projected to increase by only 9 percent, from 314,000 acre-feet per year (AFY) to 345,000 AFY (Santa Barbara County, 2003). Agricultural water demand, which accounts for about 75 percent of total demand, is expected to remain nearly the same. At present, with careful and strategic planning, water supplies are sufficient to meet demand countywide during normal water years, but water purveyors will need to develop an additional 10,800 AFY by 2030; this number is projected to increase to 12,400 AFY by 2040, or they will have to rely on mining groundwater in certain areas in order to meet future demand (Santa Barbara County, 2003).

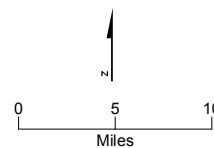
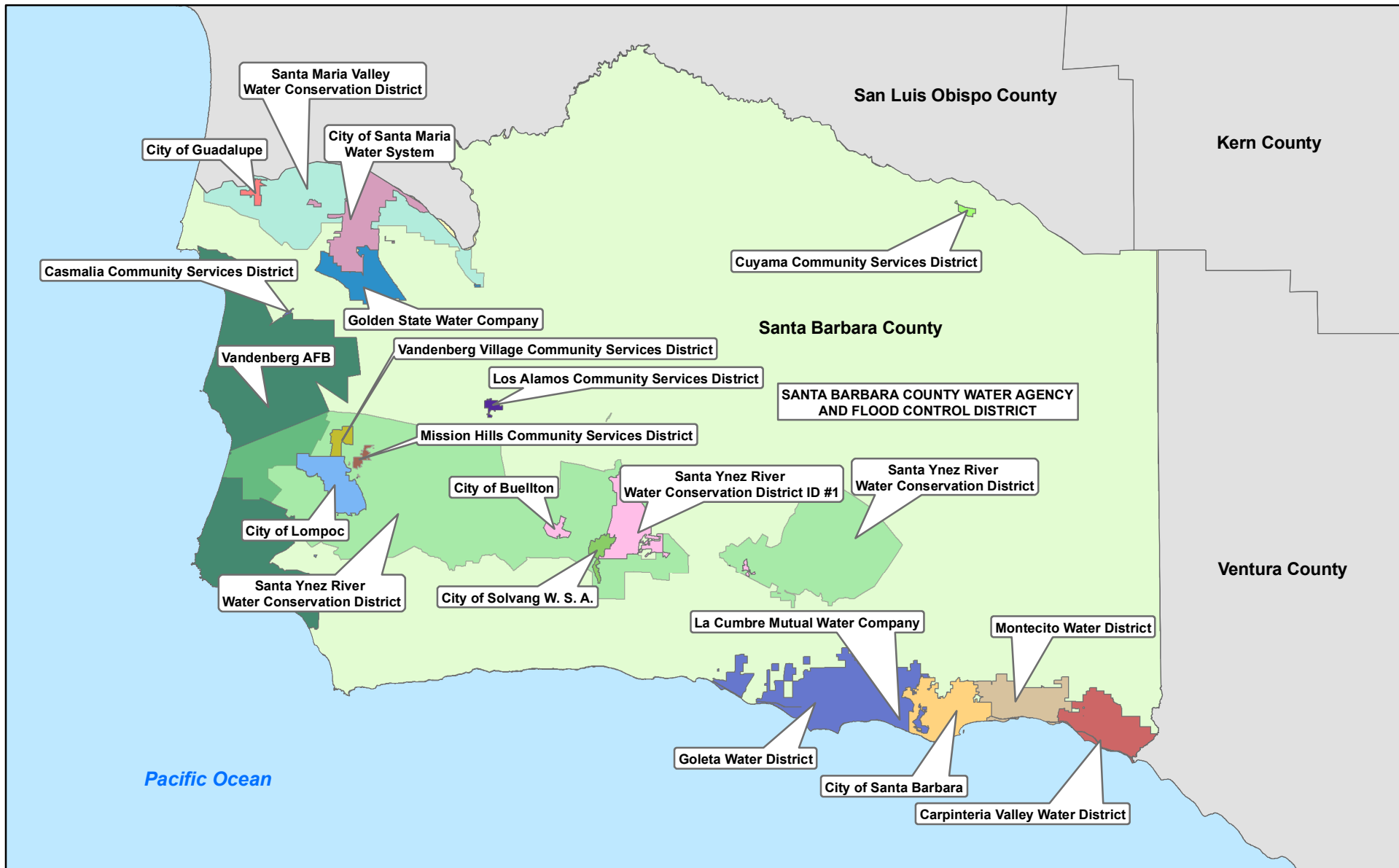


FIGURE 5
Water, Conservation, Irrigation,
and Flood Districts
 Santa Barbara IRWMP

Water Quality

Water quality is a concern because of its potential effect on human health, enterprise, aquatic organisms, and ecosystem conditions. Quality is determined by factors such as native condition of groundwater and surface water, sources of contamination (natural and human induced), and extent of seawater intrusion.

Critical Coastal Areas (CCA)

The CCA Program is part of the state's Nonpoint Source Pollution Plan and a non-regulatory planning tool to coordinate the efforts of multiple agencies and stakeholders, and direct resources to CCAs. CCAs in Santa Barbara County include the Santa Ynez River, Goleta Slough, and Carpinteria Marsh.

Groundwater Quality

The importation of State Water Project water, with lower salt content than the local sources, provides for higher quality “return flows,” and thus, helps the basin water quality. In the Santa Maria basin, in addition to improvements provided by the recharge operations of Twitchell Reservoir and state water importation, the Laguna County Sanitation District helps improve water quality in the basin by utilizing a reverse osmosis process to remove and a deep injection well to dispose of approximately 8,000 pounds per day of salts, which would otherwise accumulate in the basin system. In the Santa Ynez River watershed, under the Cachuma Project Settlement Agreement, State Water Project water is mixed with water rights releases from Bradbury Dam to lower the salt content of flows downstream. Since 1997, discharge of State Water Project water has tended to lower the total dissolved solids (TDS) of groundwater in the vicinity of these sources.

Surface Water Quality

Various entities in the IRWM planning region are focusing their efforts on poor surface water quality in creeks, rivers, and oceans due to polluted storm water and urban runoff discharges. Runoff pollutants can include pesticides, fertilizers, green waste, animal waste, human waste, petroleum hydrocarbons (gasoline, motor oil), trash, and other constituents.

Ocean Water Quality

Ocean water quality is of concern in Santa Barbara County, as it is in many places along the California coast. Scientific evidence has linked storm water runoff with high levels of indicator bacteria in creeks and ocean water. Exposure to indicator bacteria correlates with an increased health risk to humans, requiring beach warnings.

Agricultural Water Quality

Agricultural sources may contribute to water quality impairments through irrigation return flow, flows from tile drains, and storm water runoff. These discharges can affect water quality by transporting pollutants including pesticides, sediment, nutrients, salts (including selenium and boron), pathogens, and heavy metals from cultivated fields into surface waters.

Drinking Water Quality

Imported water from the State Water Project is of high quality, ranging from 222 to 510 milligrams per liter (mg/L) TDS. In parts of the North County, State Water Project water is blended with other lower quality water, which results in a higher overall quality of the water distributed to customers. For the South Coast water purveyors, State Water Project water is conveyed through Lake Cachuma, where it mixes with local surface water. The water is then directed to local water treatment plants, after which it is distributed to customers.

Neighboring or Overlapping IRWM Regions

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

Specific coordination efforts will need to be updated as there have been new coordination efforts since the submittal of the IRWM Plan in 2007 and the RAP. Some of these efforts include facilitated meetings of regions in the Central Coast Funding Area to establish a coordinated approach to seeking funding. Inter-regional project opportunities have been discussed with both San Luis Obispo and Ventura counties. Coordination with the U.S. Forest Service that manages land in the Los Padres National Forest has been ongoing with the U.S. Forest Service attending RWMG meetings and submitting proposed projects to reach mutual objectives. WCVC, Santa Barbara, and representatives from the Los Padres Forest met on July 23, 2009. A representative of WCVC attended the Santa Barbara workshop on September 23, 2009, and Santa Barbara IRWM and WCVC have kept in monthly contact and updated one another on their respective processes. In June 2009, a "Letter of Intent" to Coordinate across IRWM Regions" was submitted to DWR. This letter emphasized the past, ongoing, and future cooperative relationships forged between the counties of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura in the management of shared watersheds. New information will be provided on the State Water Project water banking agreement with Kern County (2008) and an agreement for transfer of excess State Water Project water from San Luis Obispo to Santa Barbara County as a drought buffer (2008).

Examples from 2007 Plan

The Santa Barbara RWMG has coordinated successfully with San Luis Obispo County to the north and Ventura County to the south. In the areas of San Luis Obispo, Kern and Ventura counties where the Cuyama Rivers also flows, there exists an opportunity for further dialogue on water issues. In addition, as the headwaters of the Santa Ynez River are in Ventura County, there is an opportunity for discussion and potential future coordination. The Rincon Creek Watershed is shared by Santa Barbara and Ventura counties.

The Existing or Partially Completed IRWM Plan

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

After review of the existing 2007 IRWM Plan, the following areas have been identified that will require additional effort to update topics in the background sections:

- The RWMG evolved over time. Its membership, objectives and goals, and governance approach will be reexamined.
- The regional description must include climate change impacts to watersheds, water system management, water supply and demand projections.
- Water supply and demand projections will need to be updated.
- Inter-regional coordination will need to be updated as there have been new coordination efforts since the submittal of the RAP.
- More aggressive public outreach will be initiated to wider range of stakeholders.
- All objectives and conflicts in region will be updated.
- Basin Plan objectives will be reconsidered.
- The new integrated/ multi-benefit approach used for project selection and design in 2010 will be included.
- Water management actions to reduced greenhouse gas emissions will be incorporated into the project selection process.
- Performance measures will be included for projects that demonstrate how objectives will be achieved.
- Monitoring requirements will be reviewed.

The Public Process Used to Identify Stakeholders and How They Were Included in the Planning and Decision Making Process for the IRWM Plan

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

The RAP submittal contains an extensive description of the public process used to identify stakeholders and how they were included in the planning and decision making process for the IRWM Plan. This section of the IRWM Plan 2012 will need to be updated as outreach has successfully continued in the ensuing three years.

The plan will be updated to discuss who makes up the stakeholder group and how stakeholders have been involved in the IRWM process since completion of the 2007 Plan. Specifically, an explanation will include: (1) a description of the local organizations, agencies, communities, and others that make up the stakeholder group; (2) the process employed to expand the stakeholder list, (3) the type of input stakeholders have added; (4) how stakeholder participation has been utilized for the identification of regional objectives and priorities; and (5) how stakeholders directly impact and interact with the plan.

Examples from 2007 Plan and RAP

Integrated regional water management in Santa Barbara County has been and is being developed through strong and active multi-stakeholder involvement utilizing a

collaborative process. Multiple organizational structures, procedures, and processes are in place promoting access to and collaboration with people and agencies with diverse views from throughout the region. Stakeholders, including DACs, have been and continue to be identified and invited to participate in integrated regional water management processes within the region.

Structure Supporting Access and Collaboration

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

The Plan will be updated to discuss the agencies and organizations that make up the RWMG, the Steering Committee and the stakeholder group, their respective roles and how these groups interface. Discussion also will entail how regularly the groups meet, and how information is exchanged and incorporated into the process and inner-workings of the group. In addition, a discussion will be included of how the structure facilitates communication, decision making and economic justice within the region. Finally, the section will identify ways in which the process can be improved and set a schedule for implementation.

Examples from 2007 Plan

Two stakeholder groups, the Cooperating Partners and the Stakeholders Group, provide the foundation for the organizational structure. The Cooperating Partners, in partnership with the Stakeholders Group, have guided and funded the planning process since 2006.

- The Cooperating Partners are water and wastewater agencies and districts, community service districts, water conservation districts, cities (small, medium, and large), joint powers authorities, and the County of Santa Barbara. The Steering Committee, made up of active members of the Cooperating Partners, provides active participation and leadership in the integrated regional water management process.
- The Stakeholders Group has been participating in the planning process since 2006. The Stakeholders Group has participants from the general public, agriculture, environmental groups, watershed groups, wetlands groups, academic institutions, and NGOs.

The Water Agency provides the administrative structure for the development of the IRWM and administration of Proposition 50 funds. State and Federal agencies play an advisory role in integrated regional water management planning.

Processes for Identifying Stakeholders

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

In continued efforts to be more inclusive and elicit input from the public on IRWM issues, the Plan will enumerate how stakeholders have been identified and the steps that have been taken to specifically outreach, elicit input, and assimilate new information into the process and the Plan. The Plan also will discuss how stakeholders receive information and what the strategies will be implemented to make the process more transparent, accessible and useful.

Examples from 2007 Plan

Public stakeholders were initially identified and invited to participate by the Cooperating Partners when outreach began in 2006. The number of public stakeholders has continued to grow since then. Both the Cooperating Partners and the Stakeholders Group regularly work on updating and expanding the outreach list.

The stakeholder outreach list includes agricultural, watershed, wetland, environmental, NGOs, community-based organizations, and other individuals. The Cooperating Partners interface with many of the different community interest groups (public stakeholders) routinely on many issues within their own jurisdictions and these groups have been incorporated into the stakeholder outreach list.

Processes for Building Stakeholder Participation

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

IRWM Plan 2012 will provide a brief description of what stakeholder participation has been like and outline what can be done to increase two-way community dialogue on issues through various forms of communication in addition to identifying ways in which IRWM can become more visible in the community. A Stakeholder Outreach Plan will be developed in conjunction with this update.

Examples from 2007 Plan

Stakeholders are invited to participate through email communications, public meeting notices, website notices, newspaper announcements and articles, and targeted communications with other regions and disadvantaged communities. Details on each form of communication follow.

Stakeholder Organization Communications

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

The Plan will contain a list of current and active stakeholders and describe the types of relationships and communications that exist/occur and how these can be improved upon and better utilized for more effective and efficient stakeholder participation.

Examples from 2007 Plan

During the IRWM process in 2007, stakeholders contacted other stakeholders regarding the IRWM process. For example, the Santa Barbara Surfrider Foundation regularly published notices of the Santa Barbara IRWM public stakeholder meetings through their monthly newsletter that reached over 2,000 people and organizations. This level of cooperation and goodwill will be recalled as the Prop 84 process shifts into gear.

Website Notices

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

No revisions needed as section meets Prop 84 standards.

Examples from 2007 Plan

Santa Barbara County operates a website (www.countyofsb.org/pwd/water/irwmp.htm) dedicated to facilitating IRWM communications with all stakeholders in the region.

The website includes the following information:

- Schedule for Cooperating Partner Steering Committee meetings, public stakeholder workshops, and major planning or project milestones
- The 2007 IRWM Plan
- List of Cooperating Partner agencies and organizations and the most recent MOU
- Meeting agendas, meeting minutes, and presentations
- Contact information
- Important documents relating to integrated regional water management
- Links to other regional planning efforts and pertinent state documents

Targeted Organizations

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

IRWM Plan 2012 will discuss the targeted organizations and interest groups, the reasons why certain agencies have been targeted, and the outcome of these efforts. It also will discuss strategies going forward that can be used to facilitate more robust stakeholder engagement and better understanding of what IRWM is and how the IRWM Plan 2012 will be a tool and a guide for policy makers, planners, local agencies and the general public. New outreach will include specific groups that have been targeted: South Coast Habitat Restoration, Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians, San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties Agricultural Watershed Coalition, Tri-County Fish Team, Land Trust for Santa Barbara, Sustainable Conservation, and Carpinteria Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Examples from 2007 Plan

Outreach has been targeted to the Santa Barbara County Task Force of the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project, City Creeks Advisory Committee, Santa Barbara County Agricultural Advisory Committee, UCSB Donald Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, Goleta Slough Management Committee, Goleta Chamber of Commerce, Chumash Tribe, Sanitation Agency Managers' Association, Citizen's Planning Association, and Project Clean Water. The Cooperating Partners and Public stakeholders participate in regional meetings to share information about the IRWM process and encourage participation.

Regular and Open Meetings

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

In planning for Prop 84, meetings have been ongoing in the region since formal award of the Prop 50 contract in December of 2008 until the present. The Cooperating Partners and/or Steering Committee generally have been meeting on a monthly or a bi-monthly basis. There also have been numerous large Cooperating Partners/Public Stakeholder meetings commencing in September 2009 and continuing to May 2010. The Santa Barbara IRWM Cooperating Partners embarked on an ambitious Project Selection

Process in September 2009 in implementation of its biennial review of projects provided for in the 2007 IRWM Plan, which prescribes project list review and solicitation of new projects.

The most recent meeting dates and discussions have been held in conjunction with public workshops. These have been conducted for the purposes of biennial project review and the Project Selection Process as mentioned above associated with projects for the Plan update and implementation grant application. Meetings outlined directly below are Cooperating Partners meetings to which the public was invited.

New meetings will be included and examples of those meetings are as follows:

- **August 19, 2010** – Cooperating Partners meeting held in Lompoc, California, to discuss the planning grant process and scope of the IRWM Plan 2012, the Implementation Grant application process and schedule, and the Central Coast IRWM Funding Area meeting
- **June 19, 2010** – Cooperating Partners meeting held in Buellton, California, to discuss the Central Coast Funding Area discussion, Guidelines, scopes of work anticipated for the planning and implementation grant applications, budget status and items, and the final project list for the implementation grant application

Examples from 2007 Plan

The Cooperating Partners, throughout the preparation of the IRWM and Proposition 50 grant application, met on at least a monthly basis with consistently strong representation from agencies and districts. These meetings have continued to coordinate administration of Proposition 50 funds and planning for Prop 84 and other related integrated regional water management issues.

Several Cooperating Partners meetings have been held recently. These meetings are open to the public, operated according to the Brown Act, and announced 72 hours in advance on the County IRWM Plan website. Stakeholder Group members are notified of all meetings. Public comments were welcomed prior to and at all meetings.

Prop 84 Public Workshops

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

The 2012 Plan will be updated to include a discussion of how the public has most recently been involved in actual implementation of provisions for biennial review stipulated in the 2007 Plan. The biennial review outlines a process whereby the existing project list is reviewed, new projects are solicited, and an assessment of the former (2007) list is conducted in the context of regional priorities and goals identified by all groups (Steering Committee, Cooperating Partners, stakeholders) in the IRWM region. The IRWM Plan 2012 will include the many meetings that have taken place since 2007.

The Process Used to Identify the Region's DACs and How the Applicant Engaged Them in the IRWM Planning Process

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

The Plan will identify opportunities, constraints and anticipate potential challenges that DACs have encountered and may encounter. The plan will discuss how challenges have been addressed and how the Cooperating Partners have dealt with challenges and work on behalf of DACs. The section will be updated to include information on how the Water Agency and the City of Santa Maria have continued to work on behalf of Casmalia to sort out administrative difficulties and provide the infrastructure originally proposed for Proposition 50 implementation grant funding. In addition, the Plan will identify ways to successfully empower and integrate DACs and work toward outcomes that benefits all the interests in the region and water resources. The IRWM Plan 2012 will update the scope of work for several DAC projects, as in time those scopes have changed.

The Process Used to Identify the Region's DACs

IRWM Plan 2012 will discuss the process used to identify regional DACs. There are five (5) recognized DACs in the IRWM region that are directly involved in the RWMG MOU signatories. The first step the region takes to identify a DAC is to see if the DAC meets the State's definition of a DAC. The definition of a DAC is a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80 percent of the statewide annual median income. This is usually determined using US Census data. However, some of the DACs are not census rated, but meet the intent of the definition. Districts may self-identify or are specifically outreached to through formal contact.

Each of the five DACs median household income will be reassessed to determine if they continue to qualify as a DAC. There also may be areas that now qualify as a DAC that did not qualify during the planning process in 2007. The region annually calls recognized DACs, which are given an update on the IRWM process and encouraged to join. If they are not interested in direct participation, they are still included on the correspondence list and receive notification of all public meetings.

Another way in which DACs are identified is through an active member of the RWMG. An RWMG member may specifically target a DAC community and provide support, or a DAC may be indirectly associated with the IRWM through a shared interest or shared project with a Cooperating Partner. For example, the County of Santa Barbara and City of Santa Maria has continued to work on behalf of Casmalia to sort out the administrative difficulties and provide infrastructure improvements proposed for Proposition 50 Implementation Grant funding. When necessary, DACs are supported by the overall Cooperating Partner's group in that some DACs are exempted from financial contribution to the effort and others are provided additional guidance and time.

How the Applicant Engaged Them in the IRWM Planning Process

As mentioned above, numerous DACs are active members and so project benefits to DAC communities are quite direct and in other instances, DAC communities have partnered with other DACs or non-DACs on projects. DACs have been at the table and engaged. DACs that are not Cooperating Partners are annually encouraged to join and are sent all public meeting notices. Also, Cooperating Partners are encouraged to have dialogues with the DACs in their area to ensure information is disseminated.

Examples from 2007 Plan

Multiple processes and procedures are in place to promote access to and collaboration with DACs in the region. During the IRWM planning, grant application, and grant administration process, the Steering Committee worked with several DACs in the region to ensure that they were integrated into the IRWM process.

The region has long recognized that DAC's lack of staff and expertise presents a potential obstacle to effectively planning and implementing IRWM projects. The Cooperating Partners recognize that one or more of the Cooperating Partners need to take a role in working with the DACs to provide support. To that end, the County of Santa Barbara has taken an active role for several years in working on behalf of the disadvantaged communities as their advocate with DWR and the CCRWQCB.

The Process Used To Identify the Regions' Water Related Objectives and Conflicts

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

IRWM Plan 2012 will describe how the ongoing discussion regarding objectives and conflicts has evolved in the intervening years since adoption of the 2007 Plan. This section will outline what issues have been and will be taken into consideration, who has been involved in these discussions, and the methodology employed to determine objectives, conflicts and priorities.

The IRWM planning process has utilized several approaches to identify objectives and conflicts. Most recently late 2009 and early 2010, the region conducted a Project Selection Process that identified and reconsidered the conflicts and objectives from the 2007 Plan. The conflicts and objectives were considered over a 6-month period of time enabling input from a variety of sources and enough time for full review. The Project Selection Process included several meetings of the RWMG that were open to the public where the topic of identifying conflicts and objectives was taken under consideration.

New objectives for the region include:

- Increase water reuse and water conservation measures to increase and extend existing water supplies
- Improve operational efficiency, transfers, and supply reliability
- Increase water supply in the least costly, most efficient, and most reliable manner

- Improve management of groundwater basins through conjunctive use
- Improve flood management to protect people, property, and ecosystems
- Improve water quality
- Improve quality of groundwater, stormwater runoff, agricultural water runoff, and treated water discharges to regional water bodies
- Improve water management to protect and restore ecosystems and wildlife habitat

In the 2007 Plan, there are conflicts listed that have been resolved in the intervening years. For example, levy repair work on the Santa Maria River has been initiated and conflict over flooding has been largely resolved. A newer conflict is the current debate over the right to and desirability of seeking “suspended” State Water Project entitlements.

Examples from 2007 Plan

Conflict over water supply and use is not uncommon in the region. Groundwater can be particularly contentious in areas such as the Santa Maria and Cuyama valleys where urban or residential water needs may conflict with those of agriculture and the needs of large agriculture may conflict with those of smaller farms. In Santa Maria, such conflicts are being resolved through the study and adjudication of the basin. An in-depth study of the Cuyama Groundwater Basin now underway may eventually provide the basis for resolution of similar conflicts.

Other concerns have arisen in regard to the water uses and operational protocol of major reservoirs. There has been past debate regarding the desirability of recreation at local water supply reservoirs and questions regarding the uses to which reservoir water is being put. For example, Cachuma Reservoir operational procedures are being reexamined and modified to balance the needs water supply, fish, and flood control. In addition, a threat of infestation by an invasive muscle species has prompted a discussion of funding responsibility between water supply and recreational agencies. Deteriorating flood control structures such as the Santa Maria Levy has resulted in conflicting views regarding agency responsibility and funding for facility repair and maintenance.

Entities within the Santa Barbara Region have historically cooperated with internal and external entities to resolve conflicts as they arise. The RWMG sees the IRWM as a fluid instrument to facilitate this process.

The Process Used to Determine Criteria for Developing Regional Priorities

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

The Guidelines do not use the term Regional Priorities. Instead, the emphasis is placed on objectives – the process to first identify issues and conflicts and then select objectives

that address issues and conflicts. The end result of all activities proposed for the plan is meeting Prop 84 standards and regional objectives.

The Data and Technical Analysis Collected/Performed and How That Data is Managed

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

The RWMG realizes that this section will need to be updated in the IRWM Plan 2012. The 2007 IRWM Plan does not address how technical analysis is collected and/or performed.

The update to the existing plan will need to develop common protocols for data gathering, analysis, monitoring, and reporting systems that are used by RWMG members, the region, and the state. The data management section in the update will include the following:

- A description of typical data collection techniques
- A description of how stakeholders contribute data to a Data Management System (DMS)
- The entity responsible for maintaining data in the DMS
- A description of the validation or quality assurance/quality control measures that will be implemented by the RWMG for data generated and submitted for inclusion into the DMS
- An explanation of how data collected for IRWM project implementation will be transferred or shared between members of the RWMG and other interested parties throughout the IRWM region, including local, State, and federal agencies
- An explanation of how the DMS supports the RWMG's efforts to share collected data
- An outline of how the data saved in the DMS will be distributed and remain compatible with State databases including Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP), Water Data Library (WDL), Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) program, California Environmental Information Catalog (CEIC), and the California Environmental Resources Evaluation System (CERES)

How Integrated Resource Management Strategies Will Be Employed

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

The term water resource strategy is replaced in the Prop 84 process by the term resource management strategy (RMS). An RMS is defined in the California Water Plan Update 2009 as a project, program or policy that helps local agencies and governments manage their water, and related resources.

The 2007 IRWM Plan noted that the identification of water management strategies was the last step in a process. First, the RWMG identified key issues and conflicts in the region. Next, the RWMG developed objectives that would address the key issues and conflicts. Once objectives were established, water management strategies were identified that had the potential to help the region achieve the objectives.

The IRWM Plan 2012, as with the 2007 IRWM Plan, will follow a similar path to developing RMS. The RWMG first will identify issues and conflicts, next objectives, and then RMS that help achieve those objectives. The RWMG will maximize the diversity of strategies. It will review all RMS listed in Table 3 in the Guidelines and other RMS specific to the region to see how applicable they are in meeting the IRWM Plan objectives. The process utilized (technical advisory input, stakeholder input, etc.) in the selection process and the reasoning behind selecting RMS will be documented.

During the Project Selection Process in early 2010, the RWMG and stakeholder group revised regional issues and conflicts and objectives. Those updated regional issues and conflicts and objectives will be evaluated, updated, and included in the IRWM Plan 2012.

The step-by-step process used to identify water management strategies during the 2007 planning process is reviewed below. The RWMG identified key issues and conflicts, then objectives were developed that address key issues and conflicts. Once objectives were established, water management strategies were identified that had the potential to achieve the objectives.

Examples from 2007 Plan

Issues and conflicts included:

- The need to replace, rehabilitate, or upgrade aging infrastructure serving the general population and especially disadvantaged communities
- Risk of illness, especially in disadvantaged communities, from inadequate drinking water and pollution from wastewater
- Water supply reliability, stemming from multiple factors, including the variable reliability of State Water Project water, the loss of storage capacity in the four major reservoirs, and the need for water supplies to serve a growing population
- The need to operate and maintain water and wastewater systems in a manner that minimizes impacts to sensitive habitats and species and complies with federal, state, and local regulatory requirements
- Overdrafted groundwater basins in North County
- Water quality impairments in both groundwater and surface water bodies, including pollution of creeks and ocean water, especially from sediment runoff
- Potential harm to people and property from flooding

- The need for emergency planning to address potential impacts to water and wastewater facilities from floods, earthquakes, fires, as well as planning for (and responding to) periodic droughts

Regional objectives included:

- **Water Supply** – Protect, conserve, and augment water supplies
- **Groundwater Management** – Protect current and future groundwater supplies
- **Ecosystem Restoration** – Protect and restore habitat and ecosystems
- **Water Quality** – Protect and improve groundwater, freshwater, brackish water, ocean water, and drinking water quality
- **Emergency Preparedness** – Ensure secure water supplies by helping local water purveying districts address the impacts of future droughts, other water shortages, and emergencies such as earthquakes, floods, and fires
- **Infrastructure Efficiency and Reliability** – Maintain and enhance water and wastewater infrastructure efficiency and reliability

Water management strategies from the 2007 IRWM Plan included:

- Environmental and Habitat Protection and Improvement
- Surface Water Management
- Groundwater Management
- Imported Water
- Water Supply Reliability
- Drinking Water – Treatment and Distribution
- Water Quality Protection and Improvement
- Matching Water Quality to Water Use
- Water Recycling – Treatment and Distribution
- Desalination
- Recreational Opportunities
- Water and Wastewater Treatment
- Economic Incentives

How the IRWM Plan Will Be Implemented and What Impacts and Benefits are Expected

Implementing the IRWM Plan

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

The Santa Barbara Region has the tools and processes in place to press forward from planning into implementation. The IRWM Plan 2012 stakeholder outreach process conducted by the RWMG will bring the region together on a Prop 84 compliant plan that seeks to actualize objectives. The tools in place include an active effort to seek other state and federal funding, functioning IRWM website, and staff support resources. Most importantly, the region is deeply committed to the IRWM process. The RWMG has kept pace with the evolving IRWM process from the beginning – the 2007 IRWM Plan was accepted by DWR in 2007, the region applied for and received \$25 million in implementation funding in 2008, the region's RAP report was accepted and DWR recommendations implemented, and to get ahead of the process the region completed a "project selection process" that complied with all Guidelines before the Guidelines were published.

While the region, along with the rest of the state, may lack funding to implement all planned projects, the IRWM Plan 2012 will be in place as funding becomes available. To secure the maximum amount of funding, the region will collaborate on identifying, prioritizing and applying for other grant opportunities. The agencies and cities in the region stand ready to support projects with their own matching dollars.

The IRWM website will serve as a focus point for information on plan development and outreach opportunities. It will be the spigot through which project and program information will flow. Grant opportunities and upcoming workshops from outside funding sources will be available on the website. The RWMG and its Steering Committee will continue to guide the process through regular meetings. The RWMG has provided strong financial support to provide staff for the management of the IRWM process. The stakeholder outreach process will continue to grow with new blood providing support to the group.

The RWMG recently completed a Project Selection Process that was marked by an open and transparent approach to soliciting and developing intra-regional projects with multiple benefits, reviewing projects for eligibility, and scoring and ranking using quantifiable methods. The IRWM Plan 2012 envisions another project selection process to update the priority project list for the future rounds of Prop 84 funding. Projects will be selected that implement regional objectives.

Examples from 2007 Plan

The existing IRWM Plan is designed to be implemented through employing a process to identify, fund and implement priority projects that address key issues regional objectives, and priorities and employ regional water management strategies. The plan describes a straightforward, linear path that was followed to relate place-specific issues

to regional objectives, priorities, and strategies in order to identify projects needed to resolve these issues.

Expected Impacts and Benefits

Revisions Needed for IRWM Plan 2012

The update will need to reassess the expected impacts and benefits based on revised regional issues and conflicts, objectives, RMS, and priority projects. In general, it is certain that the IRWM Plan 2012 will support development of projects that move the region closer to achieving regional objectives. Impacts of all projects will be considered through the CEQA/NEPA process. To cite two examples of expected benefits from revising the 2007 Plan, two regional studies are planned that will benefit the region and assist in reaching key objectives. One project will provide a template for development of a salt and nutrient management plan. Through this project, the region will deal with the newly identified issues and conflicts from the Project Selection Process including: the need to manage agricultural and urban stormwater runoff to prevent impaired groundwater and the objective of improving groundwater quality. The other project will take a significant step forward in planning for expansion of recycled water use in the South Coast sub-region. This project will deal with the identified issue of the need to use recycled water for outdoor landscaping or large agricultural irrigation instead of costly and unreliable SWP water which will help reach the regional objective of increasing water reuse.

It is anticipated that projects will emerge that address issues, conflicts, and objectives as identified in the 2009-10 Project Selection Process and the IRWM Plan 2012 Project Review process. A plethora of admirable projects were proposed for the regional IRWM Master Project List. Those projects will be multi-benefit by-in-large and benefit the region by (1) reducing the risk of flooding and enhancing and expanding the natural streambed features of Lower Mission Creek; (2) improving natural stream beds through the removal of tamarish and arundo (Santa Ynez River); (3) implementing conservation measures (Leak Watch – The Radio Water Conservation Metering Project and Cachuma Resource and Conservation District water conservation lab for agriculture) that will allow the City of Santa Maria to complete the installation of a water meter reading system to read water use data on a near-real-time basis; and (4) improving water quality (Ortega Groundwater Treatment Plant rehabilitation to treat high levels of hydrogen sulfide, Goleta Sanitation District Wastewater Treatment Plan Upgrade, and South Coast Subregion Recycled Water Development Plan) while increasing regional water supply.

With the new Plan Standards, there is a greater emphasis on providing certainty that a regional project will provide the benefits claimed and that the magnitude of those benefits will be quantitatively portrayed. Therefore, it is expected that the IRWM Plan 2012 will be able to provide greater and more accurate detail on identified benefits.

Examples from 2007 Plan

The expected impacts and benefits from the existing IWRM Plan are as follows:

Projects that Address Specific Regional Issues and Challenges

The key issues and challenges facing Santa Barbara County were identified by the Cooperating Partners through the IRWM Plan process, and they are reflected in the objectives, regional priorities, and water management strategies identified in this plan. Projects that met these objectives and regional priorities were then developed using a variety of water management strategies. The plan also includes an adaptive management element that will modify and develop new projects to reflect changing regional needs.

Support and Improve Local and Regional Water Supply Reliability

The IRWM Plan includes a number of projects that will improve water supply reliability. For example, the South Coast Conduit 2nd Pipeline Project will improve the reliability, integrity, and capacity of the Conduit, which is essential to the delivery of water supplies to the current and future population of the South Coast. As noted immediately above, the Central Zone Transmission Main and ASR Demonstration Well Project will further increase the water supply reliability of the South Coast Conduit system.

Contribute Expeditiously and Measurably to the Long-term Attainment and Maintenance of Water Quality Standards

Several projects meet this program preference. One IRWM Plan project will fund seed money to form watershed working groups for the lower Santa Maria River/Oso Flaco Waterbodies, Santa Ynez River and the South Coast Beaches for the express purpose of managing the TMDL process in these watersheds. Other projects will provide infrastructure improvements that allow water and wastewater purveyors to meet regulatory standards.

Eliminate or Significantly Reduce Pollution in Impaired Waters and Sensitive Habitat Areas, Including Areas of Special Biological Significance

The IRWM Plan includes a number of infrastructure projects that will reduce pollution in sensitive habitat areas by relocating infrastructure that has previously discharged sewage into those areas; other projects will improve discharges to Goleta Slough, a 303(d) listed water body. The plan also includes a number of habitat restoration projects and creek rehabilitation projects that will improve water quality.

Include Safe Drinking Water and Water Quality Projects that Serve Disadvantaged Communities

The IRWM Plan includes four high priority projects that will serve DACs. The community of Casmalia has a critical need for the water system improvements that will ensure that it has a safe, secure water supply. The City of Guadalupe Wastewater Treatment Plant Reuse Improvements Project will improve the quality of wastewater discharge, benefiting the health and safety of community members, and allowing the treated water to be used for a wetland enhancement project. Two essential projects also will also improve water quality and drinking water in Cuyama.

Include Groundwater Management and Recharge Projects

Several long-term projects are included in the plan, including the Vandenberg Village Community Services District Lompoc Groundwater Basin Recharge Study, and the Central Coast Water Authority Groundwater Banking Opportunities Study, which will identify agencies that may benefit from a groundwater banking program both within the Water Authority service area and in the central valley of California. The study also will identify and prioritize benefits, risks, and costs associated with several scenarios. The Water Authority also submitted a project for the design and construction of a groundwater bank near the Polonio Pass Water Treatment Plant in San Luis Obispo County.

Resource Specific Benefits

The existing IRWM Plan also presented a CEQA-type of overview of the types of impacts that could occur from the implementation of the projects included in this IRWM Plan. The project evaluation criteria include “lack of significant long-term adverse impacts, including impacts to agriculture,” and based on the preliminary evaluation performed, most projects are not expected to result in long-term adverse impacts.

How the Plan Meets Current IRWM Plan Standards

The current Santa Barbara County IRWM Plan was reviewed and accepted by DWR in 2007 and at that time met all plan standards. In the intervening three years, those standards have been replaced by new Prop 84 standards. Therefore, the 2007 Santa Barbara County IRWM Plan needs updating to the more current Prop 84 plan standards. The following identifies where the current plan meets new standards and where it needs additional information to meet new standards.

Governance

The table below details each component required to meet governance standards for in the new IRWM Plan 2012.

EXHIBIT 3-7

Governance

Section	Does Current Plan Meet New 2010 Standards	Additional Information Required to Meet Standards
Group responsible for development	No	Changes in agency or organization membership in the RWMG will be included.
Public Notice Requirements	No	Updates from the new MOU will update this section.
Plan Adoption	No	Update to describe the minimum needed to adopt and the goal of having all RWMG members adopt.
Chosen governance structure	Yes	
How governance address and ensures various activities	No	Update needed to discuss how the current government structure addresses issues and makes decisions.
Effective decision making	No	Update needed to discuss how the current government structure addresses issues and makes decisions.
Balanced access and opportunity for participation	No	Updated needed to discuss how the access and community involvement has become more inclusive.
Effective communication	No	Update needed to discuss changes in communication and implement actions for more effective intra and external communication.
Long-term implementation of IRWM Plan	No	Update needed to discuss and implement a strategy for the long-term implementation.
Coordination with neighboring IRWM efforts, State and federal agencies	No	Discussion on the increase in the level of participation and agencies coordinated with will be included.
Collaborative process	Yes	
Interim and formal changes to Plan	No	Update needed to discuss and implement strategy for flexibility in changes to the Plan.
Updating or amending Plan	No	Update needed to outline strategy and procedure for updating/amending the Plan.

Region Description

EXHIBIT 3-8

Region Description

Section	Does Current Plan Meet New 2010 Standards	Additional Information Required to Meet Standards
Watersheds	No	Little updating needed except for description of likely impact of climate change on resource.
Internal boundaries	Yes	
Supply and demand	No	Needs updating with current data and impact of climate change on resource.
Water quality		Mostly current but will need some updating with current data and a specific update on the impact of climate change on resource.
Objectives and conflicts	No	Mostly current but will be updated with new info from 2010 Project Selection Process that updated issues/conflicts and objectives. Also include impact of climate change on resources.
Regional IRWM boundary	Yes	Info from RAP to be included in new IRWM Plan.
Neighboring or overlapping IRWM regions	No	Update with current cooperation and coordination.

Objectives

EXHIBIT 3-9

Objectives

Section	Does Current Plan Meet New 2010 Standards	Additional Information Required to Meet Standards
Determining objectives	No	New objectives were established during the 2010 Project Selection Process. Those objectives will be reviewed and updated during a series of meetings by RWMG and Stakeholder Group. Basin Plan Objectives, the 20 x 2020 water efficiency goals, and Program Preferences (CWC 10540) will be considered. Will consider changes due to climate change in the amount, intensity, timing, quality and variability of runoff and recharge. Also will consider effects of sea level rise on water supply conditions and identify suitable adaptation measures. Carbon sequestration opportunities also will be considered.
Describing the process	No	New process will illustrate collaborative process and tools used to establish objectives.

EXHIBIT 3-9

Objectives

Section	Does Current Plan Meet New 2010 Standards	Additional Information Required to Meet Standards
Measuring	No	Objectives will be measureable with both qualitative and quantitative metrics established based on those used during the Project Selection Process. Will include metrics to measure reduced energy consumption.
Prioritizing	No	RWMG will include explanation as to why objectives are or are not prioritized. RWMG will consider several types of prioritization including tiering or grouping, short-term and long-term, and spatial or temporal arranging.
Objectives, goals, and the planning hierarchy	No	RWMG will review the planning nomenclature and clearly and consistently explain organization.

Resource Management Strategies

EXHIBIT 3-10

Resource Management Strategies

Section	Does Current Plan Meet New 2010 Standards	Additional Information Required to Meet Standards
Documenting the process		<p>The IRWM Plan will note the documents that were used to consider RMS, consider all RMS listed in Table 3, and which RMS will assist in achieving regional objectives.</p> <p>“No regret” strategies such as flood plain protection, ecosystem enhancement, and water use efficiency will be considered for their effectiveness in coping with climate change. The region also will review the feasibility of using vulnerability assessments and tools to identify and potentially implement adaptation strategies.</p>

Integration

While it is not likely that new plans will be required to include a separate section on integration, the IRWM Plan will show that the RWMG is forming, coordinating and integrating separate efforts in order to function as a united effort.

EXHIBIT 3-11

Integration

Section	Does Current Plan Meet New 2010 Standards	Additional Information Required to Meet Standards
Stakeholder and institutional	No	Will integrate the stakeholder process with that of the RWMG and the planning processes of other local water and land-use planning.
Resource integration	No	An example of how this will be included in the new plan is that a resource such as data management will be integrated with the stakeholder process so that stakeholders have access to project and process data.
Project implementation integration	No	Project implementation will be integrated with data management, local land use and water planning, stakeholder involvement, climate change, etc.

Project Review Process

The updated IRWM Plan 2012 will document the region's history of its IRWM project review process starting with the 2006 process. In early 2010, the region initiated a comprehensive Project Selection Process that incorporates the vast majority of the new Plan Standards. As the IRWM Plan 2012 is updated, the RWMG will initiate a 2011 Project Selection Process and the plan update will include the procedures for submitting projects, reviewing projects, and communicating projects.

The 2011 Project Selection Process will build on the work completed in the 2010 Project Selection Process and include the following additional steps:

- Identification of projects necessary to implement the IRWM Plan
- Identification of projects that may qualify for a specific funding sources
- If the project contributes to the diversification of the water management portfolio
- Inclusion of additional cost and financing information for each project and links to that information
- How the project could be restructured to deliver greater regional efficiencies or benefits
- Contribution of the project in adapting to the anticipated regional effects of climate change

- Contribution of the project in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as compared to project alternatives

Consistent with existing regulations and practice, RWMGs and project proponents will estimate GHG emissions from the project; establish significance criteria; identify those project components that may support carbon sequestration; and if applicable, explain how the project may help in adapting to the effects of climate change.

Impacts and Benefits

While the Guidelines state that the benefit/impact analysis section of the new plan does not have to be extensive or exhaustive, the updated IRWM Plan 2012 will expand it analysis to include the impacts of new projects included on the Master Project List and the benefits of new analysis such as climate change.

EXHIBIT 3-12

Impacts and Benefits

Section	Does Current Plan Meet New 2010 Standards	Additional Information Required to Meet Standards
Water supply enhancement	No	Update to cover how new objectives and project will enhance water supply
Water quality improvement	No	Update to cover how new objectives and project will enhance water quality
Groundwater improvements	No	Update to cover how new objectives and project will enhance groundwater quality, reduced pumping costs and other potential benefits
Water conservation and reuse	No	Update to cover how new objectives and project will enhance water conservation and reuse
Watershed rehabilitation	No	Update to cover how new objectives and project will rehabilitate watersheds
Habitat improvement	No	Update to cover how new objectives and project will improve habitat
Flood management	No	Update to cover how new objectives and project will improve flood management

Plan Performance and Monitoring

The 2007 IRWM Plan will include new information on how the region is making progress toward meeting regional objectives, implementing projects, and monitoring projects to ensure compliance to all applicable rules, laws, and permit requirements. It is anticipated that updating this section will require a significant level of effort.

The new plan will contain criteria that will be used to evaluate the progress to meeting plan objectives and the process that will link project completion to IRWM Plan implementation. The new plan will execute the following items:

- Explain who from the RWMG is responsible for IRWM implementation
- List the frequency of performance evaluations
- Explain how IRWM implementation will be tracked with a DMS and who will be responsible for maintaining the DMS
- Discuss findings
- Inclusion of policies and procedures that promote adaptive management, particularly as it relates to climate change
- Utilize new tools and information, as they are developed and made available, to adjust plan performance and monitoring approaches
- Identify who has responsibility for developing project-specific monitoring plans and who is responsible for monitoring activities
- Specify the stage of project development at which a monitoring plan will be developed
- Contain an explanation of typically required contents of a project-specific monitoring plan

Data Management

The Prop 84 IRWM data management standard requires a significant level of effort to update the existing approach. That level of effort is detailed in Task 4 of the Work Plan, budget and schedule.

The goal of updating the existing DMS is to set up a process of data collection, storage, and dissemination to IRWM participants, stakeholders, the public, and the State. The type of data that will be included for dissemination may include technical information such as designs, feasibility studies, reports, and information gathered for a specific project in any phase of development including the planning, design, construction, operation, and monitoring of a project. This also will include cross reference of existing data in various databases. The new approach to data management will take care not to duplicate existing systems (e.g. USGS, RWQCB, etc.) but will work with and support existing systems. The DMS will ensure efficient use of available data, stakeholder access to data, and ensure the data generated by IRWM implementation activities can be integrated into existing State databases.

The tasks required for establishing the DMS include:

- **Review of Existing Data within the IRWM Region and Identify Data Needs** – the principal task will be to conduct review of previous studies;
- **Develop a Web-based DMS** – this data based will endeavor to give easy access to stakeholders, the public and the RWMG. The DMS will serve as a data repository for various types of data (for example, project related data). Depending on the type of

data, the components and protocols for data assimilation from various sources into the DMS will be developed.

- **Establish Typical Data Collection Technique** – For data gathering a common protocol will be developed. The protocol will describe the use of common and compatible methods for data gathering and reporting formats.
- **Develop Procedure for Adding Data to the DMS** – Separate account login information and the website links will be set up to provide access to the DMS for all the stakeholders. Guidelines for uploading the information to the DMS will be developed. Stakeholders will access the website to retrieve information and/or contribute data to the DMS using their account login information.
- **Maintain the DMS** – The RWMG will study the costs and various options for maintaining the DMS.
- **Data Quality Assurance/Quality Control** – A quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) method will be developed to review the quality of data. This task includes description of the validation or quality assurance/quality control measures that will be implemented by the RWMG for data generated and submitted for inclusion into the DMS.
- **Data Sharing and Distribution** – This includes a preparation of protocol regarding how data will be collected for IRWM project implementation and transferred or shared between members of the RWMG and other interested parties throughout the IRWM region, including local, State, and federal agencies.

Finance

EXHIBIT 3-13

Finance

Section	Does Current Plan Meet New 2010 Standards	Additional Information Required to Meet Standards
Sources of funding	No	Include information on both governmental sources of funding and other sources of funding, including local bonds, ratepayers, operating funds, Water Enterprise funds, special taxes, assessments, and fees, and private loans that can be used to maintain and implement the IRWM Plan
Certainty of funding	No	Table to be included that indicates the certainty and longevity of the funding sources (example on p. 59 of Guidelines)

Technical Analysis

Using a 20-year planning horizon at least, the updated plan will discuss the technical information, methods, and analyses used by the RWMG to understand the water management needs.

EXHIBIT 3-14

Technical Analysis

Section	Does Current Plan Meet New 2010 Standards	Additional Information Required to Meet Standards
Technical information	No	Description of technical info sources and/or data sets used to develop the water management needs in the IRWM Plan and an explanation of why this info is representative or adequate for the task
Analyses and methods	No	Description of studies, models, or technical methodologies used to analyze the technical info and data sets.

Relation to Local Water Planning

This section of the existing plan will need rewriting since planning in the region has been either updated or new planning has been undertaken in the last few years. The update will make sure that the IRWM Plan 2012 is consistent with existing local planning and that the plan includes current, relevant elements of local water planning and water management issues common to multiple local entities in the Region. The new plan will describe how the RWMG has or will coordinate its planning with other regional entities. It will consider and incorporate the following:

- Consistency and coordination regarding local plan content and the IRWM Plan content
- Relevant, accurate and current local plan information and references upon which the IRWM Plan is based
- Water management issues and climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies from local plans into the IRWM Plan
- Limits, levels, management tools or criteria relevant to water management in local plans that are applicable to the IRWM Plan
- Water management issues and climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies from local plans

Relation to Local Land Use Planning

The RWMG understands that the intent of this section is to require an exchange of knowledge and expertise between land use and water resource managers, to examine how RWMGs and land uses planning agencies currently communicate, adapt water management systems to climate change, potentially offset climate change impacts to regional water supply, and identify how to improve planning efforts between the RWMGs and the land use planning agencies.

EXHIBIT 3-15

Relation to Local Land Use Planning

Section	Does Current Plan Meet New 2010 Standards	Additional Information Required to Meet Standards
Link between water management and land use planning	No	The updated plan will broaden the issues where input is sought from Land use planners (see p. 62, Guidelines). It alternately will consider opportunities for land use planners to benefit from RWMG input (see p. 63, Guidelines).
Current relationship between local land use planning entities and water management entities	No	Update to be included.
Future efforts to establish proactive relationship between the two	No	Update will consider internal planning and coordination changes that will need to occur within the RWMGs, improvements that could be made to the mechanisms for interacting with the land use planning community, and other strategies listed in the Guidelines to establish an effective exchange of information for planning purposes.

Stakeholder Involvement

EXHIBIT 3-16

Stakeholder Involvement

Section	Does Current Plan Meet New 2010 Standards	Additional Information Required to Meet Standards
Stakeholder composition	No	Update needed to discuss composition of the stakeholder group.
Process used to identify stakeholders	No	Update needed to discuss the process.
DACs	Yes	N/A
Technology and info Access	No	Update needed to discuss and ensure access.
Decision making process	No	Update needed to characterize decision making process clearly.
Involving stakeholders	No	Update needed to articulate stakeholder involvement process.

Coordination

EXHIBIT 3-17

Coordination

Section	Does Current Plan Meet New 2010 Standards	Additional Information Required to Meet Standards
Coordination of activities within region	No	Update needed to discuss ongoing and newly evolved coordination activities as well and identify what needs to be done.
Identification and coordination with neighboring IRWM regions	No	Update needed to discuss ongoing and newly evolved coordination activities.
Coordination with agencies	No	Update needed to discuss ongoing and newly evolved coordination. Facilitate coordination by involvement in CNRA's California Adaptation Strategy process to help shape the development of the IRWM Plan and consider joining the California Climate Change Registry.

Climate Change

The requirements to include climate change considerations and actions into IRWM planning are a new Prop 84 plan standards. The region recognizes that the intent of the DWR guidance on climate change is to move the region to describe, consider, and address the effects of climate change on their regions and disclose, consider, and reduce when possible GHG emissions when developing and implementing projects. To the extent possible, the region will comply with all guidelines and requirements for this update that include:

- Assessing regional vulnerability to climate change using general climate change effects
- Updating the region description, project review process, and other sections of the IRWM Plan to recognize likely climate change effects
- Including plan update procedures that will ease and facilitate future modifications required as climate change models and scenarios are made available for incorporation into the IRWM Plan
- Using updated climate change IRWM Plan elements to guide water management decisions and project selection
- Preparation to present a more detailed analysis of climate change including a discussion of vulnerabilities (qualitative discussion) and also quantitative measurements of GHG emission associated with possible projects to the extent feasible

- Address adapting water management systems to changes in the amount, intensity, timing, quality and variability of runoff and recharge
- Utilize relevant guiding publications and available resource to comply with standards
- Consider and implement “no regret” adaptations to the general effects of climate change
- Discuss general approaches to mitigate climate change by reducing energy consumption
- Consider strategies adopted by CARB in its AB32 Scoping Plan when evaluating different approaches to reducing GHG emissions

Work Plan Content

The Santa Barbara County IRWM Region is committed to updating its current IRWM Plan, completed in 2007, to Prop 84 IRWM Plan Standards. The previous Background Section provided the context for the various tasks in the Work Plan. That section identified and characterized what is needed to update the IRWM Plan. The Work Plan focuses on how the region will provide the missing elements to make the plan more complete in scope and compliant with current standards and move the region toward achieving its objectives.

The region has invested significant resources to identify how to update the existing 2007 Plan. In early 2010, the RWMG and stakeholders revised regional objectives based on current conflicts and issues. The Work Plan acknowledges the need to revise governance, objectives, resource management strategies, the project review process, impacts and benefits, plan performance and monitoring, data management, technical analysis, relation to both local water planning and land use planning, stakeholder and DAC involvement, and climate change. In the Background Section, the details on what needs to be updated in the 2010 IRWM plan were discussed. In this section (Work Plan) separate tasks are identified as priorities for the region. Implementation of those tasks will move the region toward accomplishing its objectives. The tasks are as follows: the update of the IRWM Sections, Project Review Process, Stakeholder and DAC Involvement, Data Management System, Climate Change, and two regional studies (Groundwater Basin Assessment in Support of Salt and Nutrient Management Plan and South Coast Subregion Recycled Water Development Plan), the Draft and Final IRWM Plan, and Quarterly and Final Reports.

The Work Plan includes tasks that will integrate virtually all Program Preferences into the IWRM Plan 2012. A summary of those preferences and how they will be integrated into the Work Plan is discussed in Exhibit 3-18 on the following page. The exhibit also includes references to where those preferences appear in the Work Plan tasks.

EXHIBIT 3-18

Program Preferences Included in Santa Barbara County IRWM 2012 Planning

Program Preference	How Santa Barbara County is Including the Preference
Include Regional Projects	<p>There are two regional projects included in this proposal. The “Groundwater Basin Assessment in Support of a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan” project will serve as a model for a regional salt and nutrient management plan (Task 6.1 in Work Plan). The City of Santa Maria and the Twitchell Management Authority have cooperated in the scoping, planning, and funding (provided matching funds for this grant application) of the Groundwater Basin Assessment.</p> <p>The “South Coast Subregion Recycled Water Development Plan” is a study to support the increase of recycled water use in the South Coast sub-region (Task 6.2 in Work Plan). South Coast sub-region agencies and Heal the Ocean have been discussing ways to increase water recycling for over a year. After several meetings, consensus and support coalesced around a regional, cooperative approach to jointly study the opportunities and constraints, as a first step to most efficiently expand recycled water use.</p> <p>This Program Preference is included in Work Plan, Task 6.1 and 6.2.</p>
Integrate Water Management Programs	<p>The IRWM Plan 2012 will address both existing integration of water management programs as well as specific efforts to achieve further integration of specific water management goals. In particular, the Santa Maria Basin is now subject to court ordered adjudication that guides the management water availability in the basin but that does not address salt/nutrient management. The proposed “Groundwater Basin Assessment in Support of a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan” project would integrate water supply management and salt/.nutrient management. The proposed “South Coast Subregion Recycled Water Development Plan” would integrate State objectives and local programs in water quality protection, drought planning, and water use efficiency.</p> <p>This Program Preference is included in Work Plan, Task 6.1 and 6.2.</p>
Resolve Significant Water-Related Conflicts Within or Between a Region	<p>Santa Maria Groundwater Basin - The IRWM Plan 2010 will address an aspect of the long-standing conflict between urban and agricultural water users in the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin. This basin is now subject to a court ordered adjudication and settlement agreement to guides the management of the basin. The proposed “Groundwater Basin Assessment in Support of a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan” will move the sub-region forward in addressing surface and groundwater quality as well. The City of Santa Maria and the Twitchell Management Authority have cooperated in the scoping, planning, and funding (provided matching funds for this grant application) of the Groundwater Basin Assessment.</p> <p>This Program Preference is included in Work Plan, Task 6.1.</p>
Contribute to attainment of one or more of the CALFED Bay-Delta Objectives	<p>The “South Coast Recycled Water Development Plan and Guadalupe “Recycled Water Study” will lead to decreased reliance on imported water supplies from the Bay-Delta and increased regional self-sufficiency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> South Coast sub-region agencies and Heal the Ocean have been discussing ways to increase water recycling for over a year. After several meetings, consensus developed around the “South Coast Recycled Water Development Plan” approach. This Plan will identify technical, institutional, political and social opportunities to increase use of recycled water and address related constraints for implementation. The many stakeholders in the sub-region

EXHIBIT 3-18

Program Preferences Included in Santa Barbara County IRWM 2012 Planning

Program Preference	How Santa Barbara County is Including the Preference
	<p>support this approach and are committed to moving forward with the necessary steps to develop this important water supply source.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The “Recycled Water Feasibility Study” is an important step forward for the DAC of Guadalupe. The city is overly dependent on groundwater. The study will include a market assessment, the identification of required recycled water distribution facilities, and a cost/benefit analysis to evaluate the feasibility of supplying recycled water to the City of Guadalupe and some surrounding property owners, all of whom depend on ground water. The market assessment will identify potential recycled water customers, both within and adjacent to the City boundaries, and match recycled water supply to potential demand. • Goleta Water District is seeking to expand its existing recycled water distribution system through the proposed “Cathedral Oaks Recycled Waterline Project.” • The “Secondary Water Efficiency System Project” in the City of Santa Maria extends the distribution and use of groundwater that does not meet potable standards but is suitable for use on large landscape areas. This efficient match of water resources to water usage augments drought preparedness efforts within our region. In addition, water reliability is strengthened through lessening the burden on State Water Project water. <p>This Program Preference is included in tasks 1, 6.1, and 6.2 of the Work Plan</p>
Address Critical Water Supply or Water Quality Needs of DACs	<p>The cities of Santa Maria and Guadalupe are DACs and the “Groundwater Basin Assessment in Support of a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan” will serve to improve water quality of the basin.</p> <p>The “Recycled Water Feasibility Study” is an important step forward for the DAC of Guadalupe. The City is overly dependent on groundwater. The study will include a market assessment, the identification of required recycled water distribution facilities, and a cost/benefit analysis to evaluate the feasibility of supplying recycled water to the City of Guadalupe and some surrounding property owners, all of whom depend on ground water. The market assessment will identify potential recycled water customers, both within and adjacent to the City boundaries, and match recycled water supply to potential demand.</p> <p>This Program Preference is included in the Work Plan in Task 6.1.</p>
Integrate Water Management with Land Use Planning	<p>The IRWM Plan 2012 will discuss both existing integration of water management programs with existing land use planning as well as specific efforts to further achieve better integration of water management and Land Use Planning. For example, the Santa Maria Basin is now subject to a court ordered adjudication that guides the management of the basin but does not address salt/nutrient management. The proposed “Groundwater Basin Assessment in Support of a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan” project would alternative salt/.nutrient management methods including matching the quality of water delivered to end users to specific land uses such as landscaping and agriculture.</p> <p>This Program Preference is included in Work Plan, Task 6.1.</p>

EXHIBIT 3-18

Program Preferences Included in Santa Barbara County IRWM 2012 Planning

Program Preference	How Santa Barbara County is Including the Preference
Flood Control Projects that Provide Multiple Benefits	<p>The San Jose Creek Capacity Improvement and Fish Passage Project is a multi-objective project that will increase flood conveyance capacity, reduce flood hazard and provide fish passage for migrating endangered steelhead trout.</p> <p>The Lower Mission Creek Flood Control and Restoration Project is a multi-benefit flood control project and is part of the IRWM Plan 2012. It is a joint project between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the City of Santa Barbara and the Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to reduce the effects of flooding and property damage resulting from Lower Mission Creek's inability to contain flows during large storm events. A second objective of this project is to enhance and expand the natural streambed features of Lower Mission Creek.</p> <p>This Program Preference is included in Work Plan, Task 1.</p>
Address Statewide Priorities	<p>Addresses several Statewide Priorities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drought Preparedness - water conservation projects throughout the region, efficient groundwater basin management, water recycling expansion in the South Coast Basin) (This Program Preference is included in Work Plan, Task 1); • Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently - water conservation projects (City of Lompoc Regional Leak Detection Program, Santa Barbara County Regional Water Conservation Program, City of Santa Maria "Leak Watch - Radio Water Conservation Metering Project") and water recycling projects (see above in CALFED Objectives section for full list)(This Program Preference is included in Work Plan, Task 1); • Climate Change – project selection (This Program Preference is included in Work Plan, Task 2) will include measures to adapt to climate change and reduce GHG emissions and energy consumption; • Expand Environmental Stewardship – projects will protect the watersheds of the Santa Maria River (e.g., salt and nutrient management planning), Santa Ynez River Watershed (e.g., arundo removal), and South Coast (e.g., tertiary treatment plant upgrade by Goleta Sanitation District, Mission Creek Flood Control and Restoration Project that enhances and restores the natural streambed features, and San Jose Creek Capacity Improvement and Fish Passage Project that will provide fish passage for endangered steelhead trout) (This Program Preference is included in Work Plan, Task 1); • Practice Integrated Flood Management – two projects demonstrate multi-benefit, integrated flood management. Those projects are the San Jose Creek Fish Passage Project and Lower Mission Creek Flood Control and Restoration Project (This Program Preference is included in Work Plan Task 1); • Protect Surface Water and Groundwater Quality (e.g., sewage conveyance system upgrades, restoration projects around Cachuma Reservoir) (Work Plan Task 1); and • Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits (multi-benefit projects for DACs including Guadalupe, Lompoc, and Santa Maria) (This Program Preference is included in Work Plan, tasks 1 and 6).

Work Plan Tasks

Task 1: Update Existing IRWM Plan to Prop 84 Standards

IRWM Plan 2012 will update the existing plan to IWRM Plan Standards as listed in Appendix C of the Guidelines. The plan also will incorporate progress made by the RWMG and stakeholders in their biennial update of the existing plan. Progress was made in several areas that will be incorporated into IRWM Plan 2012: (1) governance where a revised MOU enables full participation by NGOs (Heal the Ocean is now a member and participates on the Steering Committee); (2) project selection process where the region proactively conducted a transparent, public process to create an updated Master Project List and evaluate projects for implementation funding, (3) the identification of conflicts, issues, objectives and appropriate resource management strategies during the project selection process, and (4) stakeholder outreach that included seeking participation of new stakeholders and increased participation of DACs.

Task 1.1 Gather and Analyze Planning or Management Documents Relevant to Updating Existing IRWM Plan

This task includes identifying documents that are pertinent to updating the IRWM Plan. Those documents may come from the following sources: (1) the Santa Barbara County region; (2) local agencies, cities or organizations; (3) other regions, the State of California or federal government; and (4) other organizations. These documents will inform on such topics as data management, climate change, reduction of GHGs, recycled water, salt and nutrient management, measuring project performance, economic analysis, etc.

Task 1.2 Update Select Sections of the 2007 Santa Barbara County IRWM Plan

All of the sections of the 2007 Santa Barbara County IRWM Plan have been reviewed to determine the type and level of revision needed to make the IRWM Plan compliant with new standards. The review and revision necessary for the sections listed below is detailed in the Background Section of this application (p. A3-41, *How the Plan Meets Current IRWM Plan Standards*).

- Governance
- Region Description
- Objectives
- Resource Management Strategies
- Integration
- Impact and Benefit
- Plan Performance and Monitoring
- Finance

- Technical Analysis
- Relation to Local Water Planning
- Relation to Local Land Use Planning
- Coordination

Several sections (Project Review Process, Stakeholder Involvement, Data Management, and Climate Change) are not listed above because they are included as separate work plan tasks (tasks 2, 3, 4, and 5). Projects that were reviewed during the Project Selection Process (2009-10) will be included in update of these sections. There is a Master List of projects that number over 100 projects that will be listed and projects that were selected to be included. Those projects were: Secondary Water Efficiency System Project, Leak Watch – Radio Water Conservation Metering Project, Goleta Sanitation District Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade, San Jose Creek Capacity Improvement and Fish Passage Project, Lompoc Valley Regional Leak Detection, Central Coast Water Authority Pipeline Erosion Damage Repair, and Guadalupe Recycled Water Feasibility Study.

Task 2: Project Review Process

The project review process will utilize an integrated and multi-benefit approach to project selection. The process will adhere to Prop 84 guidelines, employ a transparent and interactive group decision-making process and support tools, encourage the participation of all regional stakeholders, conduct several workshops, and strive to reach the broadest possible consensus among stakeholders. The project review process will be guided by the RWMG and RWMG Steering Committee and employ the services of an experienced facilitator and expert on Multi-Objective Decision-Making (MODM). This process will be open to all stakeholders and RWMG members. Projects may be submitted by RWMG members or NGOs that partner with a RWMG member. The process will include four meetings, which include the kick-off meeting, two workshops, and one stakeholder workshop specifically for public information and input. Projects will only be considered eligible if they are compliant with CEQA requirements, are “ready-to-go,” if the project is in an approved plan, and if permitting is underway and achievable.

Task 2.1 *DAC and Stakeholder Outreach*

While there are five recognized DACs in the IRWM region that are directly involved in the RWMG, not all of them are able to participate in a process as time consuming as the project selection process. RWMG staff will contact the DACs to encourage participation and offer to represent their views and potential projects to the group as a whole. DACs may partner with other RWMG agencies to increase the resources available to execute DAC projects. RWMG staff will provide meeting notes to DAC and follow-up on items of interest to the DAC. In this way, DAC interests will be represented and their water management needs will be communicated to the region as a whole. RWMG staff will

assist DACs in determining the best strategy for meeting project review requirements, such as scopes of work, schedules and budgets for proposed projects. This approach has been employed successfully in development of IRWM Plan 2007. It is the goal of the region to have DAC projects vying for funding in each round of implementation grant funding.

Task 2.2 Kick-off Meeting

The kick-off meeting will initiate the project review process and the RWMG and stakeholders will be invited to participate. The meeting goals will include: review DWR Guidelines; establish team standards (team vision, purpose goals, team member responsibilities, operating guidelines, etc.); provide background on multi-objective decision-making approach to project selection, scoring and ranking; identify current regional issues and conflicts and objectives, and review process for submission of projects to Master Project List (requires less information) and Priority Project List (requires more detailed information).

Task 2.3 Workshop #1

This RWMG workshop will be open to participation by all stakeholders. This task will involve the following subtasks and meeting goals: overview of kick-off meeting; update regional needs and objectives; select appropriate Resource Management Strategies (RMS) based on achieving regional objectives; review of lists of submitted projects; discussion of developing projects to better meet regional objectives, Program Preferences, and Statewide Objectives; discussion of meeting project goals in more efficient/effective manner and alternative project approaches that reduce GHGs and incorporate climate change considerations; review of project information forms; multi-objective decision-making approach to scoring and ranking projects, and review of draft scoring of projects completed by the consultant with input from Project Proponents.

Task 2.4 Public Information and Input Workshop

The public will be invited to this workshop one month in advance. It will be held in the early evening in a central location to encourage broad participation. The public workshop will review Guidelines, status of Project Review Process to date; seek feedback on regional issues, conflicts, and objectives; multi-objective decision-making approach to scoring and ranking projects; review project list; review draft scoring of projects; discuss future opportunities for public input and methods of communicating input; schedule for completion of draft and final IRWM Plan.

Task 2.5 Workshop #2

Workshop #2 is a RWMG workshop that is open to participation by all stakeholders. The workshop agenda will include: review draft scoring of Priority Projects; complete final scoring of projects; review scoring using alternative weighting approaches; distribute draft project scoring sheet to entire RWMG for feedback. Steering Committee will review RWMG member feedback and re-score projects, if necessary.

Task 3: Stakeholder and DAC Involvement

Strategies will be developed with the goal of increasing stakeholder and DAC involvement in the project selection process. While there is a relatively broad list of stakeholders, including DACs, with a tradition of participation, other organizations will be targeted such as the South Coast Habitat Restoration, Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians, San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties Agricultural Watershed Coalition, Tri-County Fish Team, Land Trust for Santa Barbara, and Sustainable Conservation. Outreach also will expand to include electrical power suppliers, self-supplied water users, and other community organizations. This outreach will be conducted by the RWMG and IRWM staff.

To increase DAC involvement, the region will identify opportunities, constraints and anticipate potential challenges that DACs have encountered and may encounter in the IRWM process. In addition, the region will identify ways to successfully empower and integrate DACs and work toward outcomes that benefits their interests in the region. The region will research census data for the entire region to ensure that areas are identified as DACs, if the status is warranted.

The region will examine ways to improve its communications with DACs. The region will endeavor to keep in contact with DAC representatives to give them updates on the IRWM process, IRWM meeting notes and notices, and encouraged them to participate. The RWMG will explore how to assist DACs if they do not have the resources to participate. For example, the RWMG members can assist DACs in determining the best strategy for meeting project review requirements, such as scopes of work, schedules and budgets for proposed projects. In the past, DAC communities have partnered with other DACs or non-DACs on projects. It is the goal of the region to have DAC projects considered for funding in each round of implementation grant funding.

Task 3.1 Update of Stakeholder Outreach Plan

This task updates the existing plan to include future opportunities for public input into the IRWM process. The Outreach Plan will include a critique of the 2007 IRWM Plan Stakeholder Outreach Plan. The processes used for identifying stakeholders, building participation, assisting DACs, addressing water management issues, geographical representation and stakeholder interests, and outreach to other regions will be reviewed and updated.

Task 3.2 Review and Update List of Stakeholders and DACs

This task includes review of the existing stakeholder list by the RWMG with consideration given to the expanding stakeholder outreach required by Prop 84 Plan Standards. The list will be updated based on feedback of the aforementioned stakeholders. Solicit input from RWMG and current stakeholders on the following: (1) opportunities for further outreach; (2) strategies to target more active stakeholder participation and involvement including DACs; and (3) existing vehicles/organizations that can be utilized for more effective communication/dissemination of information.

Task 3.3 *Finalize Stakeholder Outreach Plan*

This task includes writing a draft stakeholder outreach plan to be reviewed by the RWMG Steering Committee and stakeholders at a stakeholder workshop. The draft plan then will incorporate feedback. A final plan will be written, reviewed by the RWMG, and finalized and approved by the RWMG Steering Committee.

Task 3.4 *Public Workshop #1*

This task includes review of the IRWM Plan update process; overview of Guidelines; receive input on stakeholder outreach plan, list of stakeholders, and ways in which DAC participation could be expanded and supported by the RWMG; DWR IRWM Plan Standards; discussion/input on the nexus between IRWM and land use; input on regional issues/conflicts and objectives; review of RMS; discussion of multi-objective decision-making process to be used for project selection for Round 2 of Prop 84 implementation grant; and review of existing projects and project information. DACs will be contacted and encouraged to attend.

Task 3.5 *Stakeholder Participation in RWMG Meetings*

The public and stakeholders (stakeholders already identified) will be encouraged to participate in both IRWM Plan update stakeholder meeting, RWMG meetings, and RWMG Steering Committee meetings. Notice of workshops and Cooperating Partners meetings will be in accordance with the Brown Act. The RWMG staff will contact DACs to encourage participation and offer to convey questions, issues or concerns to the group as a whole. The public will be notified of when the draft IRWM Plan will be available for public review and the system for commenting on draft IRWM Plan.

Task 3.6 *Public Workshop #2*

The public workshop will take place in the early evening at a central location to allow maximum participation by the public. This task will include the review of Plan Standards and how the required sections of the IRWM Plan are to be updated; feedback on update of IRWM Plan sections; review of progress on South Coast Recycled Water Initial Plan and Santa Maria Salt and Nutrient Management Plan Scoping Document; review of project existing project list; seek info on additional projects; seek input on evaluation and scoring of projects by RWMG; update on DMS; and review of feedback on the draft project scoring. DACs will be contacted and encouraged to attend.

Task 3.7 *Public Workshop #3*

This task includes review RWMG feedback on final project scoring; review of public comments on draft IRWM Plan; review of Round 2 Implementation Grant schedule and process; schedule for completion and submittal of IRWM Plan. DACs will be contacted regarding the meeting date, location and topics. Their questions or issues will be conveyed to the group upon their request.

Task 4: Establish Data Management System

Introduction

The objective of this task is to establish a DMS, which will set up a process of data collection, storage, and dissemination to IRWM participants, stakeholders, the public, and the State. The type of data that will be included for dissemination may include technical information such as designs, feasibility studies, reports, and information gathered for a specific project in any phase of development including the planning, design, construction, operation, and monitoring of a project. This task will also include cross referencing of existing data in various databases such as:

- The WDL that DWR maintains for the state, which stores data from various monitoring stations, including groundwater level wells, water quality stations, surface water stage and flow sites, rainfall/climate observers, and water well logs (<http://wdl.water.ca.gov/>).
- The SWAMP created by SWRCB has standards required for any group collecting or monitoring surface water quality data, using funds from Propositions 13, 40, 50, and 84 (http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/swamp).
- The GAMA program is maintained by the SWRCB and provides a comprehensive assessment of water quality in water wells throughout the State. GAMA has two main components, the California Aquifer Susceptibility (CAS) assessment and the Voluntary Domestic Well Assessment Project. The CAS combines age dating of water and sampling for low-level volatile organic compounds to assess the relative susceptibility of public supply wells throughout the State. Because water quality in individual domestic wells is unregulated, the program is voluntary and will focus, as resources permit, on specific areas of the State. Constituents to be analyzed include nitrate, total and fecal coliform bacteria, methyl tert-butyl ether, and minerals (<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/gama>).
- DWR maintains the Integrated Water Resources Information System (IWRIS), which is a data management tool for water resources data and not a database. IWRIS is a web based GIS application that allows entities to access, integrate, query, and visualize multiple sets of data simultaneously (<http://www.water.ca.gov/iwris/>).
- California Environmental Resources Evaluation System (CERES) is an information system developed and maintained by the California Natural Resources Agency to facilitate access to a variety of electronic data describing California's rich and diverse environments.

The DMS as proposed in the 2007 Santa Barbara IRWM Plan needs improvements to include or better provide access to more local water-related information. Currently, Santa Barbara County maintains existing water resources-related and IRWM-related data on the Santa Barbara County Water Agency website located at: <http://www.countyofsb.org/pwd/water/index.htm>. This site also provides the forum for sharing of reports, public meeting dates, agendas, meeting minutes, and annual

reports. In-depth data are not currently stored on the website and the GIS capabilities are not explored extensively.

The objective of the DMS for IRWM Plan 2012 is to store project related data and make it publicly available, is to ensure efficient use of available data, stakeholder access to data, and to ensure the data generated by IRWM implementation activities can be integrated into existing State databases. A part of the effort of this task will be to explore financial and staff resources to implement the scope under this task.

Task 4.1 Review the Existing Data within the IRWM Region and Identify Data Needs

This task includes identifying and analyzing documents and data that are pertinent to updating the IRWM Plan. The principal task will be to conduct review of previous studies, e.g., City of Santa Barbara's Water Supply Planning Study; SMVWCD annual report, Reports of Santa Barbara County, monitoring reports required by adjudicator. The data gaps/data needs within the IRWM region will be identified from the existing documents.

Where appropriate, data management will be coordinated with State and Federal databases in a format consistent with SWAMP and GAMA.

Task 4.2 Develop a Web-based DMS

One of the objectives of the DMS is to make the data publicly available. This task includes development of a web-based DMS with easy access to the participating agencies including stakeholders. The DMS will serve as a data repository for various types of data (for example, project related data, water quality data). Depending on the type of data, the components and protocols for data assimilation from various sources into the DMS will be developed. For example, a library of information for spatial data can be compiled into a Geographic Information System (GIS) on a project by project basis and shared with the stakeholders.

The RWMG will decide on the use of an appropriate website for developing the DMS. The existing system on the website management will be explored at the time of implementation of DMS. For example, the existing Santa Barbara County Water Agency website located at: <http://www.countyofsb.org/pwd/water/index.htm> also may serve as a resource for the development of the DMS. This site may also be continued to provide the forum for sharing of reports, public meeting dates, agendas, meeting minutes, and annual reports. All data used to support development of the IRWM will be outlined in a database and available for review on the website, which will provide links to information available on partner agency websites. Any required documentation of Proposition 50 will be made available on the DMS website by appropriate project administrators.

Task 4.3 Establish Typical Data Collection Technique

For data gathering a common data collection protocol will be developed to keep the web-based DMS up-to-date. The protocol will describe the use of common and

compatible methods for data gathering, analysis, monitoring, and reporting formats. The data collection technique will be developed in such a way that any update on the website will be notified automatically to all the participating stakeholders to bring their attention on the changes made on the data bank.

Task 4.4 Develop Procedure for Adding Data to the DMS

Separate account login information and the website links will be set up to provide access to the DMS for all the stakeholders. Guidelines for uploading the information to the DMS will be developed. Stakeholders will access the website to retrieve information and/or contribute data to the DMS using their account login information.

Task 4.5 Maintain the DMS

The responsibilities for maintenance of the DMS will be explored by the RWMG. The RWMG will select the best approach for maintaining the DMS. This task will include the following:

- Develop guidelines for maintaining the DMS system
- Update information as it becomes available
- Update calendar of meetings and workshops to inform the stakeholders for the upcoming events
- Encourage participation from various stakeholders
- Resolve any data management related issues

Task 4.6 Data Quality Assurance/Quality Control

Quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) of data is a major task that involves reviewing the quality of data. This task includes description of the validation or quality assurance/quality control measures that will be implemented by the RWMG for data generated and submitted for inclusion into the DMS.

Under the QA/QC task an effort will be taken to update the datasets and to prepare a consistent format for all types of data.

Task 4.7 Data Sharing

This task includes a protocol preparation on how data collected for IRWM project implementation will be transferred or shared between members of the RWMG and other interested parties throughout the IRWM region, including local, State, and federal agencies. The data saved in the DMS will be distributed to the stakeholders. Efforts will be made to keep compatibility with the State databases including SWAMP, WDL, GAMA program, CEIC, and the CERES.

RWMG and public workshops will serve as the primary venue for information sharing. Other settings where information can be shared include quarterly project progress meetings, monthly agency coordination meetings, e-mail subscription lists, and monthly e-mail newsletters. These forums will serve to continue to facilitate the

ongoing data sharing between stakeholders as well as the expansion of the existing Water Agency data warehousing activities.

Task 5: Climate Change

Introduction

The region will incorporate climate change into its planning process. The tasks below outlines expected steps to be taken that will provide a sufficient level of analysis to bring the region into compliance with current standards. This level of analysis may be more qualitative at the beginning but will develop quantitative approaches in the future. Along with DWR, the region recognizes that funding constraints, limited availability of adaptation tools and conflicting federal policies may hinder preparation for climate change. As new information and tools become available, the region will employ an adaptive management approach to updating the IRWM Plan on an informal basis.

Task 5.1 *Gather and Analyze Adopted Policy and Legislation Dealing with Climate Change*

This task includes review of policy and legislation including Executive Order S-3-05 and the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) (foundation for California's response to climate change), Senate Bill 97 (initiated formal changes to CEQA Guidelines for climate change analysis), and Executive Order S-13-08 (sea level rise study). Publications that will be reviewed include, but are not limited to, the *Climate Change Scoping Plan* (CARB, 2008), *Managing an Uncertain Future: Climate Change Adaptation Strategies for California's Water* (DWR, 2008), *2009 California Climate Adaptation Strategy* (CNRA, 2009), and *IRWM Climate Change Document Clearinghouse* (DWR, 2010). The region will review and integrate documents and policy s they become available.

Task 5.2 *Evaluate Potential Effects of Climate Change on the Region*

This task will include examining potential and likely impacts of climate change on the region. Imported SWP water supply may be impacted due to a reduction in snowpack in areas of origin. Climate change may impact water supply specifically river flow with changes in the amount, intensity, timing, quality and variability of runoff and recharge. Other impacts may be experienced on the ecosystem, agriculture, forests, infrastructure, flooding and drought, and on coastal areas and the Delta. The initial assessment of impacts will be estimated based on available information and studies. As improvements in methodology occur, future revisions of the IRWM Plan 2012 will contain less qualitative and more quantitative analyses of climate change impacts.

Task 5.3 *Identify Appropriate "No Regret" Adaptations to General Effects of Climate Change*

The region will identify and evaluate "no regret" adaptations that could be utilized to combat climate change. "No regret" adaptations are those that make sense in light of current water management challenges and in addition help with climate change. Examples of such adaptations to be considered include water use efficiency, recycled

water, and ecosystem enhancement projects. “No regret” adaptations will be considered in the context of regional objectives and RMS.

Task 5.4 Examine Methods of Factoring Climate Change into Resource Management Strategies, Project Development, and the Project Selection Process

During development of the IRWM Plan, the region will examine methods of factoring climate change into RMS, project development, and the project selection process. While climate change may be a factor in some existing RMS, the planning process will research identifying and utilizing other RMS. The task also will include development of approaches to incorporating energy efficiency strategies into projects. The project selection process will incorporate additional scoring benefits to projects that have climate change attributes. The RWMG will agree on the types of projects that should be undertaken in the short-term to be less vulnerable to climate change in the region.

Task 5.5 Utilize California Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Tools Under Development to Assess Risk and Identify Suitable Adaptation Measures

DWR expects that the California Climate Vulnerability Assessment and other tools (that will become available in the future) will enhance the region’s ability to assess risk and evaluate approaches of adapting the region’s water management system to climate change. The region will seek this information by attending appropriate workshops and subscribing to climate change sources of information. The RWMG will utilize existing tools to assess risk and develop suitable adaptation strategies.

Task 5.6 Review Approaches to Mitigating Climate Change and Reducing GHG Emissions by Reducing Energy Consumption

The region recognizes that climate change can be mitigated by reducing energy consumption. The end goal is to develop and select projects that are designed to reduce energy consumption as well as meet other IRWM Plan objectives. To that end, this task will review examples of end use water consumption (e.g. pumping water) in general and end use water consumption in the region and levels of energy consumption for each. When considering and evaluating regional projects, the plan will consider the benefit of using a project-level analysis as a means of disclosing and evaluating GHG emissions for project alternatives. A project-level GHG emissions analysis consists of the following: (1) estimate GHG emissions from the project; (2) establish significance criteria; (3) identify those project components that may support carbon sequestration; and, (4) if applicable, explain how the project may help in the adaptation to effects of Climate Change. This task will evaluate the costs and resources required to perform project-level analysis. Also considered will be all known applicable BMPs or other mitigation measures to reduce GHG. It is understood that DWR plans to require that future projects (not Round 1 projects) be CEQA climate change compliant.

Task 6: Planning Studies

There are two regional planning studies will be developed as part of preparation of IRWM Plan 2012. Each will be attached to the IRWM Plan 2012 as appendices, and their results will be incorporated directly into the Plan 2012 itself.

The “Groundwater Basin Assessment in Support of a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan” project will serve as a model for a regional salt and nutrient management plan. The City of Santa Maria and the Twitchell Management Authority have cooperated in the scoping, planning, and funding (provided matching funds for this grant application) of the Groundwater Basin Assessment.

The “South Coast Subregion Recycled Water Development Plan” is a study to support the increase of recycled water use in the South Coast sub-region. South Coast sub-region agencies and Heal the Ocean have been discussing ways to increase water recycling for over a year. After several meetings, consensus and support coalesced around a regional, cooperative approach to jointly study the opportunities and constraints, as a first step to most effectively expand recycled water use.

Task 6.1 *Groundwater Basin Assessment in Support of Salt and Nutrient Management Plan*

Introduction

The *Groundwater Basin Assessment in Support of Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (Plan)* focuses on initial development of a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin that could improve surface and groundwater quality, as well as address the various requirements in effect. Development of a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for groundwater basins is a requirement of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) as stated in the SWRCB Recycled Water Policy adopted in 2009. Although the Basin has been adjudicated, water quality is not well addressed the resulting order. In addition, although this assessment is focused on the Santa Maria Basin will serve as a model for other areas in the Region. Thus development of this salt and nutrient management plan will address several state-wide and Regional IRWM Objectives.

Scope of Work

The full scope of work and schedule for this task can be found in Work Plan: Appendix 1 (*Att03_PG1_WorkPlan_2of3.doc*).

A list of the tasks included in the scope of work follows:

Task 6.1.1: Establish Collaborative Process

Task 6.1.1.1 Develop a Collaborative Process for Discussions

Task 6.1.1.2 Develop RFP for Consultant Support

Task 6.1.1.3 Conduct Salt/Nutrient Plan Workshop for In-Basin Interests

Task 6.1.2: Gather Data and Develop Data Management Protocol

Task 6.1.2.1 Identify Constituents and Other Data Needs

Task 6.1.2.2 Gather Data

Task 6.1.2.3 Data Management Protocol and Develop GIS ‘Themes’

Task 6.1.2.4 Summarize and Evaluate Data and Identify Data Gaps

Task 6.1.3: Develop Conceptual Model

Task 6.1.3.1 Describe Basin Characteristics

Task 6.1.3.2 Describe Current Management

Task 6.1.3.3 Conduct Preliminary Basin Analysis

Task 6.1.4: Review and Propose Updates to Existing Monitoring Plans

Task 6.1.5: Develop Goals and Objectives

Task 6.1.5.1: Develop Institutional Goals and Objectives for Phase 1 Plan

Task 6.1.5.2: Develop Quantitative Goals and Objectives for Phase 1 Plan

Task 6.1.6: Develop Draft Phase 1 Salt and Nutrient Plan

Task 6.1.6.1: Develop Draft Phase 1 Plan

Task 6.1.7: Project Management

Task 6.2 *Santa Barbara County/South Coast Subregion Recycled Water Development Plan*

Introduction

The South Coast Watershed Subregion will conduct a study to identify technical, institutional, political and social opportunities to increase the use of recycled water and address related constraints for implementation. This study coordinates with two IRWM Statewide Priorities, specifically “drought preparedness” and “use and reuse water more efficiently” and will serve to further the following Santa Barbara Region IRWM objectives: reduce water demand, increase water supply, and improve water quality. Currently, water not recycled is discharged to the ocean as treated sewage effluent.

Building on recent and current recycled water planning activities in the Subregion, the Recycled Water Development Plan will consider the findings of previous studies as well as current thinking and discussion among the Subregion water agencies from a regional perspective. As recognized in the Guidelines, applying a regional approach to recycled water planning can provide a process for developing strategies that result in synergies and efficiencies in the utilization of financial and water resources. Opportunities will be sought to potentially restructure or integrate previously envisioned local projects to maximize regional objectives, and potentially provide multiple benefits to multiple stakeholders. This study will identify the opportunities and constraints of advancing recycled water generation and use in the South Coast Subregion, and will describe next steps toward implementing cost-effective, feasible projects as elements of the Region’s water management portfolio. The study will include the topics that are outlined in the SWRCB Water Recycling Program Funding Guidelines, Appendix B, to ensure that it is eligible for grant or low interest loans from the SWRCB.

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_recycling_policy/docs/final_wrfpguidelines071508.pdf

Scope of Work

The full scope of work and schedule for this task can be found in Work Plan: Appendix 2 (Att03_PG1_WorkPlan_3of3.doc).

A summary of the tasks included in the scope of work follows:

Task 6.2.1: Initiate Stakeholder Process – A stakeholder process will be coordinated through the IRWM Plan 2012 outreach process. Stakeholders will be identified using existing contact lists, by regional environmental groups, and announcements of initiation of the planning effort on the South Coast.

Task 6.2.2: Literature Review – Review previous pertinent study reports that describe recycled water planning and project implementation efforts for the South Coast subregion obtained from the Cooperating Partners.

Task 6.2.3: Regulations Summary – Describe pertinent federal, state and local recycled water regulations and policies that affect recycled water system planning for the South Coast subregion.

Task 6.2.4: Existing Sewage Treatment and Recycled Water Systems – For each of the four systems represented by the South Coast subregion RWMG agencies (i.e., City of Santa Barbara, Montecito, Carpinteria, and Goleta), summarize existing recycled water infrastructure, including source water, treatment methods, daily/seasonal ranges of flow, site layout/constraints, delivery systems (storage, conveyance and pumping), end users and associated recycled water use quantities and flow patterns (daily, seasonal), as well as point-of-use treatment, if applicable.

Task 6.2.5: Potential Customers – For each of the four systems described in Task 6.2.4 identify potential customers (urban, agricultural and industrial) that are not currently served with recycled water. In conjunction with information from previous market surveys conducted for some of the South Coast water agencies, current potable water use will be analyzed to identify potential opportunities for replacement with recycled water. In addition, expanded use of recycled water by existing customers will be explored.

Task 6.2.6: Treatment Needs – For each of the recycled water end user opportunities identified in Task 6.2.4, identify treatment needs, i.e., levels of treatment required and options available to achieve these treatment levels) to meet the water quality requirements assumed or established through direct communications with the potential end users.

Task 6.2.7: Distribution Needs – Based on the findings of tasks 6.2.5 and 6.2.6, broadly identify the distribution system needs, i.e., conveyance, storage,

pumping, to provide recycled water to the candidate end users.

Task 6.2.8: Potential Projects – Identify potential projects for near-term implementation. Characterize project benefits to the subregion and evaluate projects based on an assessment of these benefits. Identify performance measures to determine how IRWM objectives are being met. Identify project status and potential needs for additional study and evaluation such as a cost/benefit analysis, hydraulic modeling, groundwater modeling, etc., as needed to further advance the project.

Task 6.2.9: Project Constraints – Identify environmental, political, social constraints associated with the projects identified in Task 6.2.8 for both the subregion in general and for specific agencies associated with specific potential projects.

Task 6.2.10: Study Report – Prepare draft and final report that will include an executive summary and consolidation of findings of the TMs prepared for tasks 6.2.1 through 6.2.9.

Task 6.2.11: Project Oversight and Management – Conduct project management and coordination activities to manage scope, budget and schedule.

Task 7: Write Draft IRWM Plan

The RWMG will manage the drafting of the Santa Barbara County IRWM Plan 2012. The drafting of the IRWM Plan 2012 will be preceded by the updating of required plan elements and additional planning studies. Those elements include the following:

- Compliance with IRWM Plan Standards (governance, region description, objectives, RMS, integration, impact and benefits, plan performance and monitoring, finance, technical analysis, relation to local water planning, relation to local land use planning, and coordination).
- Project review process (establishes a Master Project List, a Priority Project List, and list of projects (final priority projects) that will seek implementation funding in Prop 84, Round 2
- Stakeholder involvement plan (to include a series of public workshops and other public outreach to inform public stakeholders and seek and incorporate appropriate feedback from the public)
- DMS
- Climate change
- Planning studies regarding recycled water on the south coast and a groundwater basin assessment in support of an initial salt and nutrient plan.

Comments from the public and the RWMG on these elements will be incorporated into the Draft Plan. The Draft Plan will be reviewed by the RWMG and stakeholders.

Task 8: Prepare Final IRWM Plan

Task 8.1 *Incorporate Comments on Draft Plan from Public and Stakeholders Group:*

The Final Plan will be made available for public review. It will include any updates to the projects lists including the final priority projects seeking implementation funding in Round 2, updates by the RWMG, and additional public input from the Draft Plan.

Task 8.2 *Incorporate Comments on Draft Plan from RWMG:*

The Prop 84 Regional Coordinator and RWMG Steering Committee will review the Final IRWM Plan 2012 and submit comments that will be incorporated into the document.

Task 8.3 *Preparation of Final Plan*

The Final IRWM Plan 2012 will incorporate comments and changes from the public, IRWM Regional Coordinator, the RWMG, and the RWMG Steering Committee. The Final IRWM Plan 2012 will be made available on the County of Santa Barbara IRWM website and at the County of Santa Barbara Water Agency.

Task 9: Adopt Plan

This task involves seeking the endorsement and adoption of the Final IRWM Plan – 2012 from the County Board of Supervisors and RWMG agencies and organizations.

Task 10: Quarterly and Final Reports

During the development of the IRWM 2012 Plan project time period, quarterly reports and a final report will be prepared. The quarterly reports will include the following:

- Quarterly invoices to the Cooperating Partners
- Progress reports on the tasks (including percent completed)
- Status of each task, including management of DMS

The reports also will include summary of activities performed and the next steps. Any changes to the proposed work plan will be noted. In addition, an overall grant progress summary will be included.

The final report will include a summary of the status of the tasks along with the accomplishments.